

COMPULSIVE SHOPPING NETWORK  
#101 "Struck by the Lightning"

Written by  
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BLACK SCREEN

OPENING CREDITS

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(officious voice)

Compulsive buying disorder or CBD or oniomania, from the Greek onios "for sale" and manía or "insanity", is characterized by an obsession with shopping and buying behavior that often causes adverse consequences. YCSN is not responsible for any adverse consequences that may result from a pre-existing compulsive buying disorder. If you think you or someone you know is suffering from this condition please seek the help of a licensed professional. With proper treatment this condition can *sometimes* be successfully treated.

DESHWA'AN (V.O.)

Five, Four, Three, Two, One

We hear five electronic blips of a time code.

We see the back of a hand counting down from five but out of sync from the countdown and the blips. After one (middle finger) the finger points away from the camera.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

To the left is IDORA HERNANDEZ, an attractive woman in her thirties, dressed in stylish casual wear and heavily made up. She is wearing a large button that proclaims "I'm Compulsive!" She's holding a tablet (script) and smiles at the camera. At her side are the two Hi Tech Zone hosts GORT NIKTO and NICHELE RENNE. In the background is a very large screen featuring dizzying drone footage.

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug appears in the lower right. The bug is present whenever we are seeing what is being broadcast.

IDORA

Welcome back Compulsives to Your Compulsive Shopping Network, my how time flies when you're having fun and hasn't this just been a blast? We're getting close to the end of hour two of HTZ, the Hi-Tech Zone, featuring electronic goodies that control, complement, enhance and define today's active lifestyle. And as always on the HTZ, I'm joined by Gort Nikto...

GORT NICTU is a 20 something hipster, t-shirt, jeans, blazer, man bun hairstyle, thick black glasses and a full, trimmed beard.

IDORA

...and Nichele Renne.

NICHELE RENNE is the female co-host of the HTZ, equally hip, mutli-colored hair (magenta and blue), thick black glasses and dressed in a kind of funky garage sale chic.

IDORA

...and we're still taking orders for the Digital Flyt Systems Rogue Commander 155A drone, featuring our one-time ultra low price of \$695.37, go ahead, I dare you to find a lower price anywhere. You know what? You won't find it. You won't find a better offer online, in an electronic superstore or a big box store, you know the ones I'm talking about. I think...

(hand to her earbud)

I think, yes, I'm told that we're sold out of the brilliant-white model and are down to only a few hundred of the Zermat Silver model, item DCSRC155A02 and we still have some of the harvest-brown model, item DCSRC155A03. The Holidays will be here soon, and if you live with gear junkies like I know I used to, you'll want to take advantage of this offer.

INSERT

Text box on the left side of the screen: "HI TECH ZONE"

INSERT

Another text box appears below the existing box: "DIGITAL FLYT SYSTEMS ROGUE COMMANDER 155A DRONE AVAILABLE IN WHITE (DFSRC155A01) QUANTITY 0 SILVER (DFSRC155A02) QUANTITY 237 BROWN (DFSRC155A03) BROWN 1012 \$695.37."

The number (237) for the silver counts down while the number for the brown (1012) counts up.

GORT

That's right Idora. The Commander! Got to love the Commander! So many features, audio, video, AI and on top of all that, it's whisper quiet! Like you said, Item 01 is sold out but Items DFSRC155A02 and 03 are still available, and when online or when you're talking to one of our operators, bring up DFSRC155AA which is the special accessory pack, this includes an extra battery set, adapters for re-charging and an extra 1TB Memory Card.

INSERT

"DFSRC155AA ACCESSORY PACK" is added to the list with the cost: \$39.99. The type slowly flashes.

NICHELE

Thirty Nine Ninety Nine! Insane! That's like what? A dollar a day?

GORT

(aside)

Not even on Mercury. Gotta nudge that decimal point over a bit, Nichele.

(facing the camera)

She's just kidding, it really works out to around a dime a day. One thin Roosevelt or as we call it today, a Reagan.

NICHELE

What? Oh wow! Well who can't afford that? That's like three minutes worth of parking downtown.

GORT  
You probably spend a hundred times  
that on coffee every day.

NICHELE  
It's literally nothing!

GORT  
Or right next door!

NICHELE  
Wow, just wow. By spending money,  
think about how much you're saving!

GORT  
That's right Nichele. And  
Compulsives, I gotta tell you that  
the motion stabilization on the HD  
video is astounding and the 40  
Megapixel 5K resolution brings  
everything into crystal clarity.  
Just take a look.

Gort motions toward the big screen behind him

GORT (cont.)  
It's almost better than real.

NICHELE  
Really!

POV DRONE

The drone with its camera follows Idora as Gort and  
Nichele's voice over continues. Idora walks offstage,  
removes her mic, hands it to an assistant and continues  
walking off the set.

The drone follows her off the set and then through a series  
of hallways and doors. A few characters walk the other way  
and Idora interacts with them.

GORT (V.O.)  
Sure you might ask, what's the  
difference between the 155 and the  
155A? I got one word for you:  
Heuristic Autonomy. Of course they  
both feature smooth, 1080P 5K UHD and  
licenses for pHilm, DFS' award  
winning video editing suite.

(MORE)

GORT (V.O. cont.)

It goes without saying that they both will remember pre-programmed GPS Coordinates and will even calculate the energy needed to return to the launch site, ensuring you'll never have to track down a lost drone again.

NICHELE (V.O.)

I literally hate that!

GORT (V.O.)

The 155 and the 155A are both great products, and any compulsive tech-head would be thrilled to have either. But I'm tellin' you Compulsives, the freakin' A makes all the difference in the world. A stands for Autonomy.

Idora looks up at the drone, smiles and waves goodbye. The drone keeps following her. She becomes annoyed, pointing angrily for it to go away. It won't. We can't hear her but she is getting annoyed. She takes her tablet and swings at the drone.

It comes teasingly close, like a fly annoying a person. She turns, begins walking toward the front of the studios again. The drone follows and she suddenly stops, smacks it with her tablet, a glancing blow.

The image of the drone is now fuzzy, breaking up into pixels, before going through a brief on-screen self-diagnostic. Picture quality returns and the Drone continues to follow Idora, but lagging behind a safe distance. Idora knocks on a door marked Vice President Network Affairs and immediately enters, shutting the door which the drone smashes into on the outside.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

Portia DeSoto's office. Stage right is a bank of TV screens playing YCSN segments, no sound. These segments vary from straight talking heads to kitchen disasters (think fire). Her desk is upstage center with a large YCSN logo dominating the wall behind it.

The desk has her nameplate "Portia DeSoto - Vice President" with a piece of tape striking out the word "Vice".

There's a computer monitor, an office phone and a couple of framed pictures.

Downstage of the desk are 1 large chair and 4 smaller chairs arranged in an inverted U.

The stage left wall has promo posters for the Network, Idora, and Brown Mountain Coffee. There are a few plants and sculptures.

PORTIA DESOTO, YCSN's Vice President is on her cell phone. She's somewhere between 40 and 60 and has no doubt spent a lot of her husband Arnie's money on plastic surgery and clothes. Her taste in fashion tends toward the outrageous and clashing colors. She may be color blind; she certainly is tone deaf.

FRANK TRUCCHI, YCSN's Division Head is sitting in the big chair playing fantasy sports on his tablet. He's around 45 and is dressed in a suit that might be tailored a bit too tight. He has a deep brown tan and flecks of gray in his well coiffed hair and goatee.

PORTIA

(looking up)

Idora, hold on one moment will you?  
You and Frank can get started.

INSERT

Portia's hand holding her cell phone, the caller id shows it belongs to a "P.I."

PORTIA (cont.)

(into phone)

I don't care, I want to see some results, OK? Use a damn drone or something but I want to have some footage. What? No, we're still... you know. This is all just...just some kind of insurance. The bill? Yeah, no, that was taken care of. No, I'm sure. Last Week. I'll check. OK, OK, but I want to see some footage, OK. Yeah, sure.

(trying to hang up)

OK, I have to, I've got somebody in my...

She stares at the phone in frustration as the other party is obviously continuing to talk. She finally hangs up and turns off the phone, clearing her throat as she turns her attention toward Frank.

Frank and Idora sit in the smaller chairs and Portia takes her throne in the middle.

PORTIA

Urgh!

(apologetically)

Excuse me, that's just...never mind.  
Idora, this will only take a sec...

IDORA

Yeah, no, but I've only got a couple of minutes.

PORTIA

Sure, I understand. Well first off, we had been a little concerned, your numbers for the quarter were trending down, but it looks like you really rebounded. The figures from last month were way up. Terrific!

IDORA

Yeah, I guess I was in a bit of a slump, but lately, well we had some pretty great products, like those stylish Bootals, half sandals, half-boots, right? The Gold-Camo skinny jeans for plus sized women, the Mt. Rushmore Series Jello Molds, The Gutter Bomb and Leaf Vac, Prince X's Vanity Closet Jewelry Line - love those anthracite studded chokers - the HELM AB1 elevator safety kit, the wine recycling...

PORTIA

Yes, well the numbers are going to make the board really take notice. Well done. Oh, and you missed last Monday's meeting, right?

IDORA

Sorry, I wasn't feeling well. But the Assistant forwarded me the email of the minutes.

PORTIA

So you know about Club Compulsive?

IDORA

A little bit.

FRANK

(slimy)

Well as you know, we try to promote a real sense of family between the network and our Compulsives by doing little things like including buttons, autographed host pictures and candy in every shipment. It only costs us pennies, but it buys a lot of trust and goodwill. We

(he looks at Portia)

have been thinking about a way to monetize that trust and goodwill. So we've come up with a new product.

IDORA

Club Compulsive.

FRANK

R-r-right. Club Compulsive. Basically our Compulsives would pay us an annual fee based on the level of membership they prefer and or can afford. For the Silver Level \$50.00 membership, they get twenty dollars in compulsive cash and advance notice of special deals texted to them. At the \$75.00 Gold level, they get twenty five dollars in compulsive cash, emails and texts of deals and free shipping on select products. The \$100.00 Platinum level allows them all of these benefits plus top of the queue priority when online or on the phone. They also get a newsletter, did we say quarterly?

PORTIA

That was the plan. I haven't seen any designs yet.

FRANK

Well the idea is to have personal stories of the hosts, some behind the scenes stuff, maybe even an annual event, but like we say, all of that's up in the air.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Nichele and Gort continue the Hi Tech Zone Segment.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right.

INSERT

Box on left side of screen: "DIGITAL FLYT SYSTEMS ROGUE  
COMMANDER 155A DRONE AVAILABLE IN WHITE  
(DFSRC155A01) QUANTITY 0 SILVER (DFSRC155A02) QUANTITY 207  
BROWN (DFSRC155A03) BROWN 1030 \$695.37."

As before, the number for the silver counts down while the  
number for the brown counts up.

INSERT

In the upper right of the screen is pre-taped footage of the  
drone flying in the studio.

NICHELE

Wow! Tell all our Compulsives how  
that works, would you Gort?

GORT

Sure, Nichele, it's easy. Every time  
you operate the drone, it will learn  
your preferences, your routine, your,  
dare I say it, life. Let me give you  
a couple of examples. Nichele, do  
you have a favorite take out place?

NICHELE

(distracted)

Make out what?

(hand to her earbud)

Oh, sure thing, Kwan's on Center. So  
what you're saying is that if Friday  
is "Bulgogi Night", you could  
actually have the drone swing by and  
pick it up? Every Friday, on its  
own?

EXT. KOREAN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Angry Koreans outside Kwan's Restaurant swatting at a drone with a broom

ANGRY KOREANS:  
가! 저리가! 지옥가!

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right.

INSERT

Box on left side of screen: "DIGITAL FLYT SYSTEMS ROGUE  
COMMANDER 155A DRONE AVAILABLE IN WHITE  
(DFSRC155A01) QUANTITY 0 SILVER (DFSRC155A02) QUANTITY 207  
BROWN (DFSRC155A03) BROWN 1030 \$695.37."

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Gort and Nichele continue the segment

GORT  
Sure, if you purchased the optional  
flexible, extendable and detachable  
cargo basket, DFSRC155ACBC. The cost  
for that is only twenty three ninety  
nine, but hurry, that price won't  
last.

INSERT

A scroll appears on the bottom of the screen: "DIGITAL FLYT  
SYSTEMS ROUGE COMMANDER 155A DRONE, INCLUDES PHILM EDITING  
SUITE, OPTIONAL ACCESSORY PACKAGE DFSRC155AA, OPTIONAL  
BASKET CASE DFSRC155ACBC."

GORT (cont.)  
Or let's say there's a neighbor you  
frequently check on?

NICHELE  
Well, there is an elderly woman who  
lives down the street. The grass  
hasn't been cut for a long time.

EXT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - DAY

Window is open and drapes flap in the breeze. Inside all we see is a couch with a clear plastic cover.

We hear flies buzzing and a couple of hungry cats meowing.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right.

INSERT

Box on left side of screen: "DIGITAL FLYT SYSTEMS ROGUE  
COMMANDER 155A DRONE AVAILABLE IN WHITE  
(DFSRC155A01) QUANTITY 0 SILVER (DFSRC155A02) QUANTITY 207  
BROWN (DFSRC155A03) BROWN 1030 \$695.37."

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Gort and Nichele continue the segment.

NICHELE

I'm a little worried about her. It would be great if I could just fly down the street and check in from the comfort of my living room couch. But it gets cold at night.

GORT

That's because there's no sun.

They both nod their heads and Gort continues in a serious, almost somber tone.

GORT (cont.)

But you know Compulsives, maybe the most important thing about the Digital Flyt Systems Rogue Commander 155A drone is that it can be a tool to increase your, your family and our Country's safety.

NICHELE

In our neighborhood, there's a new family that just moved in over on Broadway. I don't have any proof that they're up to something, but there's something odd about them...

EXT. SHABBY SUBURBAN STREET - DAY

A Vaguely Middle Eastern or Eastern European family cheerlessly exits their battered car and into their home.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right.

INSERT

Box on left side of screen: "DIGITAL FLYT SYSTEMS ROGUE COMMANDER 155A DRONE AVAILABLE IN WHITE (DFSRC155A01) QUANTITY 0 SILVER (DFSRC155A02) QUANTITY 197 BROWN (DFSRC155A03) BROWN 1045 \$695.37."

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Gort and Nichele continue the segment.

GORT

Or maybe you like checking out this hot flight attendant who likes to sunbathe on their deck.

NICHELE

Gort, that's sexist!

GORT

Hey, it could be a guy, could be a girl, I'm just sayin'. And with the ARO, the Automatic Restraining Order feature, you can easily program in distances from 10 to 200 yards from your "target subject".

(winks)

GORT (cont.)  
Of course, the 100X optical zoom will  
more than make up for that...

NICHELE  
Wow, is that even legal?  
(chuckles)  
And when Gort says it's easy, he  
really means it. The Commander's  
master program integrates seamlessly  
with any Windows, iOS or Android  
device.

Nichele walks over to a laptop on a stand and demonstrates  
the different languages the drone understands.

INSERT

Laptop screen toggling between the languages: ENGLISH,  
SPANISH, EMOTICONS AND MOJIBAKE.

NICHELE (V.O.)  
All the commands show up on your  
phone, tablet or laptop in your  
choice of English, Spanish, Emoticons  
or Mojibake. Emojis are my favorite!

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right.

INSERT

Box on left side of screen: "DIGITAL FLYT SYSTEMS ROGUE  
COMMANDER 155A DRONE AVAILABLE IN WHITE  
(DFSRC155A01) QUANTITY 0 SILVER (DFSRC155A02) QUANTITY 183  
BROWN (DFSRC155A03) BROWN 1047 \$695.37."

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Gort and Nichele continue.

GORT  
(chuckling)  
Me too, Nichele. Words are hard.  
And remember that the Commander 155A  
has Heuristic Autonomy.

(MORE)

GORT (cont.)

That means that the control system has AI integration.

NICHELE

Wow! It's like if a helicopter and a robot got married and had babies!

GORT

And think about it, for only \$695.37, a little under two bucks a day, you get a flying, spying, thinking machine. HA or Heuristic Autonomy means that once the Digital Flyt Systems Rogue Commander 155A Drone has flown the same route twice, it will remember that route and automatically continue to fly it.

NICHELE

Gee, that sounds a little scary.

GORT

Welcome to (insert current president's) America, Nichele.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

IDORA

So maybe I'm being a little slow, but what exactly is Compulsive Cash?

FRANK

Well *obviously* it's some kind of discount, but it's really more of a ratio, something like one dollar of compulsive cash is equal to a quarter. I won't bore you with the details, but according to Rich in accounting, there is a sweet spot between perceived consumer value, minimum tax exposure and, of course, maximum profit. But we're still fine tuning the concept.

IDORA

Well OK,

(cont)

I'm in! When do you want me to start selling this?

FRANK

Well that's just it.

PORTIA

We'd like to start it now. This is a revenue stream that will cost us next to nothing.

FRANK

But...the graphic designs were a little late because it seems like every department wanted to make their own changes.

Portia rolls her eyes

FRANK (cont.)

We've just got the latest graphics today.

Frank shows Idora his tablet screen.

INSERT

We see Frank's tablet displaying a website called: "BET THE HOUSE! SPORTS DRAFT!" and in smaller print "LEVERAGE YOUR MORTGAGE FOR BIG \$\$\$ PLAYING AGAINST YOUR ONLINE RIVALS."

Frank's finger quickly minimizes the betting website and maximizes a graphic program window. He pages between various Compulsive Cash on screen graphic files.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

IDORA

That looks great.

FRANK

Right? Now all we're waiting for is the final approval from legal. We're hoping to get that within the next couple of days.

IDORA

Well I suppose I should talk about it as sort of an up and coming feature?

PORTIA

Absolutely. This is going to happen,  
like Frank said, we've just got to  
dot the i's and cross the t's.

IDORA

(checking her phone)

Is there anything else? I've got to  
get back to finish up the segment,  
I've got just enough time to grab a  
quick cup of coffee.

PORTIA

No, that's it for now. Keep up the  
good work. Happy Selling!

Every time a character says "Happy Selling" or "Happy  
Shopping" it is accompanied by the two-fisted arm jerk  
motion that you see in Korean tv when they say "Fighting!"  
This is the "Happy Gesture".

IDORA

Happy Selling!

Idora turns, opens the door and leaves and as she does, the  
drone flies into the office.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN REMOLAY, YCSN's director and the ASSISTANT are  
working in the room. Deshw'an is on the small side, and  
would like you to think that he's above it all. He's  
wearing an old Philadelphia 76's cap sideways and has a  
large chain around his neck.

ASSISTANT is a young and attractive woman who dresses in a  
haphazard sort of way. While earnest, she can be a bit  
clueless.

DESHWA'AN

(yawns)

I'm beat. I'm going to step out for a  
bit, I'm in serious need of some  
java.

(consults tablet)

OK, let's run the Real Lyfe promo and  
then go back to Gort and Nichele.  
Nichele said she wants to do a call  
in segment, can you handle that?

ASSISTANT

No problem. Can you get me a water?

Assistant hands him a dollar bill, which Deshwa'an refuses.

DESHWA'AN

Nah, I got it.

(into mic)

OK, cue Real Lyfe promo in Lima, Fa,  
Tolu, Lua, Se Tasi

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

People are walking with their faces in their phones and not paying attention to their surroundings.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Has this ever happened to you?

Man walking while staring intently at his phone. He steps in a pile of dogshit and while he looks at his shoe, he bumps into a surly biker type who threatens him and gives him a shove into the street.

We see a cab approach and we hear a loud horn being sounded.

The man looks up in horror.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Or this...

INT. DINNER TABLE - NIGHT

Man and wife after dinner, woman is talking and the man is staring into his phone.

WIFE

I tell you I've had it! I'm going to live with Gordon. This marriage is over!

INSERT

We see a game on the screen of the man's phone.

MAN (V.O.)

Mmmm? What was that dear?

We hear a gunshot.

INSERT

We see the phone dropping from the man's limp hand with blood splatter. Freeze on the image.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Yes, we all feel the pressing need to stay caught up in the latest silly games, trivial pursuits of friends, and useless tweets from musicians, movie stars, complete strangers and lonely, mentally disturbed presidents, but life keeps getting in the way. Fortunately, there's a way to have your cloud based cake and eat it too! Introducing Real Lyfe, the app that monitors the outside world so you don't have to. Real Lyfe uses your device's camera and microphone and sends you text alerts so you can stay connected to the online and offline world.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Man walking down the street with his head in his phone, playing a game.

INSERT

We see the phone screen with a game and the word "DOGSHIT!" appears.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

The man walks around the dogshit.

INSERT

The phone screen with the game and the words "ANGRY BIKER" appear.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

The man gets out of the way of the biker as the cab drives harmlessly by.

INT. DINNER TABLE - NIGHT

Man is staring into his phone

WIFE (V.O.)  
I tell you I've had it! I'm going to  
live with Gordon. This marriage is  
over!

INSERT

Game on phone. Text appears: "WIFE HAS GUN!"

MAN (V.O.)  
I know it's been hard lately, honey.  
That's why I thought we'd invite your  
mother to live with us for an  
indeterminate period of time.

WIFE (V.O.)  
Oh honey!

We hear a zipper being undone.

INSERT

Text appears on phone: "WIFEY IS TAKING OFF YOUR TROUSERS!"

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

The man is staring at his phone while a doctor is talking about treatment options.

Doctor (V.O.)  
Of course the options between chemo,  
surgery, or chemo and surgery is  
entirely up to you, but the mass  
seems to be extremely aggressive.

INSERT

Against a background on the phone "BET THE HOUSE! FANTASY CO-ED LACROSSE LEAGUE!" a text appears: "THE DOCTOR IS SAYING YOU HAVE CANCER".

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

MAN

What?

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Real Lyfe, stay connected in both worlds.

(Faster)

Real Lyfe, Available exclusively at ycsn.com.

INSERT

Bottom of screen: "REAL LYFE AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY AT YCSN.COM"

POV DRONE

Drone is shooting in Portia's office.

Portia cocks an ear toward the drone and listens

PORTIA

Is the AC acting up again? Remind me to talk the building manager, what's his name? Maricio?

(to Frank)

Mmmm. Compulsive Cash, I love that concept. It's like free money.

FRANK

I know, right? Nothing for something.

(thinks)

Or maybe I have that backwards.

PORTIA

I am a bit concerned about Idora. She's missed a few days lately.

FRANK

You think she may have a little problem?

Frank makes a drinking gesture with his hand.

PORTIA  
I wasn't thinking that at all.  
Though she did have a little too much  
fun at the Halloween in July Party...

INT. YCSN OFFICE - NIGHT

Idora is wearing a Comic Praying Mantis mask, holding a drink with one hand and chugging a beer with the other while the rest of the party goers are chanting "Mantis, Mantis, Mantis!"

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE

FRANK  
Say what was with that phone call?

PORTIA  
Let's just say I'm keeping tabs on  
Arnie and the board. They've got a  
way of screwing things up, and now  
would not be a good time for it.

FRANK  
Is this all because of the buyout  
rumors?

PORTIA  
Yes, and I'm concerned. I think  
they're playing us; I think the leaks  
have to be coming from their end.

FRANK  
What I don't get is what's going on  
with this private equity firm? Why  
target us?

PORTIA  
Whether or not Arnie put them on to  
us, Animus Equity Global is looking  
to add us to their portfolio. I,  
well we, Arnie and I, have built this  
network up from nothing. I'm not  
going to stand idly by and watch some  
team of immature legal bastards tear  
it all down.

(MORE)

PORTIA (cont.)  
We have to fight this, Frank, tooth  
and nail.

FRANK  
(thinking)  
That reminds me, I've got both a  
dentist and manicure appointment this  
Thursday.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Gort and Nichele continue the segment.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right.

INSERT

Box on left side of screen: "DIGITAL FLYT SYSTEMS ROGUE  
COMMANDER 155A DRONE AVAILABLE IN WHITE  
(DFSRC155A01) QUANTITY 0 SILVER (DFSRC155A02) QUANTITY 163  
BROWN (DFSRC155A03) BROWN 1085 \$695.37."

As before, the number for the silver counts down while the  
number for the brown counts up.

Gort is having trouble with his phone and is visibly upset  
while Nichele is looking at her tablet. She looks up at the  
camera and smiles.

NICHELE  
Oh, this is my favorite part of the  
show. We've got a compulsive on the  
line via Skype! Hi, is this Alex?  
How are you doing sir?

INSERT

We see a Skype box open up in a window on the right side of  
the screen.

In the window is ALEX TOUTANT-BEAUREGARD, an elderly lady  
dressed in a housecoat and looking half tanked - she's  
taking a sip out of a coffee mug but it's anybody's guess  
what's in it.

She speaks in a low, tortured, whiskey and cigarette abused voice that disguises what is in fact a woman's voice.

ALEX

Hi Nichele, this is Mrs. Toutant-Beauregard, but you can call me Alex.

NICHELE

Oh, I'm sorry. Because your name's Alex, I automatically assumed that you were a man. I guess that's a common mistake, right?

(hastily)

But Alex, that's a lovely name for a woman as well. Is it short for anything? Alexis? Alexia? Alexandria?

ALEX

No, no it's not. Just plain Alex.

NICHELE

I see. Well where are you calling from, Alex?

ALEX

Blowing Rock. I'm calling from Blowing Rock, Nichele, but I'm originally from Fuquay-Varina. That's near Raleigh, you know.

NICHELE

Raleigh, Nor...

ALEX

South

NICHELE

Nnnnssssouth. South Carolina. Nothin' could be finer, right? Great! We love the south. The Carolinas are...Great! Anyway, I'm told you have a Drone Commander.

ALEX

Yes ma'am, I have the older Commander. I also have the VistaMatic TV that I bought from you folks last year. That's what I'm using to call you.

NICHELE

(concerned & lying)

Oh yeah, a great TV, I've got one myself. Are you using the TV and the Commander together? Wasn't it easy to set up?

ALEX

Well I didn't set it up. My cousin Earl did the setting up. Do you got a moment?

NICHELE

(false bravado)

Sure!

ALEX

Well to tell the story rightly, I gotta go back a bit. See my cousin Earl was never what you'd call a Road Scholar. About all he ever did was play his banjo, but it only had three strings. He might have played it a lot, but he had no musical gift to speak of, truth to tell he was a little on the slow side and he was pretty much known throughout Wake County for only one thing: teaching his pet parrot named Echo to poop on command. "Bombs Away, Echo!" you could say and Echo the parrot would start pooping while saying in his high-pitched parrot voice "Bombs Away, Bombs Away". People from as far away as Winston-Salem would travel to see...

NICHELE

That's interesting Alex, but how does this...

ALEX

I'm getting to it, dear.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

Frank gets out of his chair and sits on the arm of Portia's chair.

FRANK  
Wouldn't we stand to make money off  
this if...what is it? Enema Equity?

PORTIA  
Animus Equity Global, AEG. It's a  
name, Richard Animus.

POV DRONE

FRANK  
OK, AEG. There are a couple of ways  
to play this, right? We can position  
ourselves to...you know...  
(equivocal gesture)  
...the stock prices.

PORTIA  
Manipulate?

Frank puts his finger to Portia's lips

FRANK  
Shh. Hey, I didn't say it.  
(he laughs)

PORTIA  
(thinking)  
Maybe. Or we could saddle ourselves  
with additional debt. I'd prefer  
we...

Portia notices the door is still open and motions to Frank.

PORTIA  
Could you?

Frank gets up and looks out the door before shutting it.

FRANK  
But what about your husband?

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

Drone should go in and out of the shot as an extra character

PORTIA

Arnie?

She gets up and starts walking toward her desk.

PORTIA (cont.)

I told you, I'm keeping tabs on him because I think he's got something to do with all this. It's not like him, he's usually more interested in chasing interns and trying to lower his golf score. Although he stands about the same chance with either pursuit.

FRANK

A hole in none?

PORTIA

(humorlessly)

Quite.

Frank closes in and embraces her.

FRANK

No, I meant, what about your husband?

The embrace gets tighter and they kiss.

POV DRONE

The drone focuses on Frank and Portia. Portia briefly breaks out of the kiss.

PORTIA

How's he supposed to find out?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Nichele and Alex continue their conversation.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right.

INSERT

Box on left side of screen: "DIGITAL FLYT SYSTEMS ROGUE  
COMMANDER 155A DRONE AVAILABLE IN WHITE (DFSRC155A01)  
QUANTITY 0 SILVER (DFSRC155A02) QUANTITY 131 BROWN  
(DFSRC155A03) BROWN 1122 \$695.37."

As before, the number for the silver counts down while the  
number for the brown counts up.

Alex continues in the Skype window.

ALEX

Anyway, Aunt Charlotte, who's also  
Cousin Earl's half-sister, moved in  
with him. This was after her son,  
Robby Junior was put away for check  
fraud, seeing how he stole somebody's  
checkbook and went on a spending  
spree. It lasted maybe three days  
before he was caught. He ain't none  
too smart neither, but I'm guessing  
you figured as much. Anyway, he was  
sent to the Wake Correctional Center  
which was pretty close to Earl's  
house in Fuquay-Varina. So one day,  
well Charlotte, she was cleaning up  
his cage, Echo's, not Earl's, we let  
Earl run free. Like I said, she was  
cleaning Echo's cage with the vacuum  
and she turned her head away when  
they were announcing the winning  
lotto numbers on the TV and

(sucking noise)

sucked Echo right into the bag  
without realizing it. They didn't  
catch on to it right away, but Earl  
thought that Echo had escaped, and in  
his depressed state he figured that  
he would go live in a tent in the  
backyard.

Nichele is getting impatient and is trying to get the  
conversation back on track.

NICHELE

And your cousin Earl, is he a  
Compulsive too?

ALEX

Earl, hah! Lord no, he don't have a job or the credit card. He doesn't trust banks, but I suppose that's 'cause they don't trust him neither. This will go a lot faster if you don't keep interrupting me, Hun. Anyway, one night it took to raining like cats and dogs and the wind was howling so fierce that it done blew over his tent. So he was holding one of the tent poles in his hand when the lightning done struck him good. Knocked him out for three whole days.

The Skype window freezes into large pixels for a moment and then returns to normal.

NICHELE

Well we seem to have lost Alex.

ALEX

No, I'm, I think I'm still here.

Nichele is visibly upset and is trying to give hand signals to cut the caller off.

NICHELE

(a bit sarcastic)

Terrific!

ALEX

After that happened Cousin Earl started behaving odd-like, so we took him to Doc Rubin who's a pretty good doctor despite of or maybe even because of him being both a Jew and Queer, I guess it runs in their blood or something. Anyway, Doc Rubin says that after the accident - that is when Cousin Earl got struck...

NICHELE

(interrupting and  
speaking fast)

...struck by the lightning..

ALEX

(slowly)

...struck by the lightning, that he became some kind of Idiot.

ALEX (cont.)

By the way, they did find Echo a week later, when they changed the dust bag on the vac. Amazingly enough, after all that time the critter was still alive...

Nichele is concerned about where the conversation is going, but relieved.

NICHELE

That's great!

ALEX

...but the poor bird has never been the same, he got the nerves and plucked out all his feathers. He won't poop on command anymore, it just kind of runs out of him in a continuous, slow stream. It's real sad.

NICHELE

(shocked and  
disgusted)

That's horrible.

ALEX

It ain't pretty.

INT. YCSN CAFETERIA - DAY

Idora, coffee cup in hand, starts to leave when she sees Deshwa'an, his face sunk into his phone. She goes to his table and tries to get his attention.

IDORA

Hey Deshaw'an.

DESHAW'AN

(not looking up)

Yo I.D., how's it going?

IDORA

I'm not sure. I just got out of a meeting with Portia and Frank. They're pushing some kind of membership thing.

DESHAW'AN  
I heard about that. They've been trying to link it to a credit card, but there's some kind of issue with our bank.

IDORA  
Really? Where'd you hear that?

DESHAW'AN  
Around.

IDORA  
(annoyed)  
Are they going to be late with our checks? They said that it wouldn't happen again. I've got bills to pay, it's not fair.

DESHAW'AN  
What's fair? Look, it wouldn't surprise me. Nothing would surprise me...

Deshwa'an trails off and is back to looking at his phone.

DESHWA'AN  
Damn it, I sent it to them a week ago.

IDORA  
What?

DESHAW'AN  
A script idea. My friend Carl knows a show runner, he pitched an idea of mine and apparently the runner loved it. He even had a couple of cast ideas, so Carl told me to forward a treatment to him. That was a week ago, and I haven't heard squat. This ~~shit~~'s pissing me off.

The word shit is beeped out. Throughout, whenever there is profanity or any other word in a Strikethrough font, it should be similarly beeped out.

DESHWA'AN (cont.)  
Idora, I've got stories in me, stories I got to tell. Instead I've got to do this ~~shit~~. No offense.

IDORA  
None taken. What's it about?

DESHAW'AN  
What?

IDORA  
Your script. What's it about?

DESHAW'AN  
Well, I can't tell you too many details, but it's basically a slasher flick, based on a Christian reality show where these people are all on a bus tour of Lion Country Safari...no, I've said too much already.

IDORA  
(distracted)  
Sounds interesting. Let me know how it goes, I've got to get back to the salt mine.

Idora starts to leave and then turns around.

IDORA  
Say, I thought you were directing this segment?

DESHAW'AN  
Sure, but I'm taking a break. They can figure it out. This ~~shit~~ directs itself, know what I mean?

IDORA  
I suppose. OK, Later.

Idora stops for a moment and holds her stomach. She checks her phone and then walks down the hall toward the reception desk.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Nichele and Alex continue their conversation.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right.

INSERT

Box on left side of screen: "DIGITAL FLYT SYSTEMS ROGUE  
COMMANDER 155A DRONE AVAILABLE IN WHITE (DFSRC155A01)  
QUANTITY 0 SILVER (DFSRC155A02) QUANTITY 122 BROWN  
(DFSRC155A03) BROWN 1300 \$695.37."

As before, the number for the silver counts down while the  
number for the brown counts up.

Alex continues in the Skype window.

ALEX

Anyway after the accident - that is  
when Cousin Earl got struck by the  
lightning...

NICHELE

(with Alex)  
Struck by the lightning...

ALEX

...well after that he got real good  
at computers and household wiring - I  
guess he developed some kind of  
kinship with electricity on account  
of well, you know.

NICHELE

(resigned)  
Being struck, yes, we know.

ALEX

What? Oh yeah. Anyway Cousin Earl  
with his Idiot....Savant's, that's  
what Doc Rubin called him, an Idiot  
Savant, anyway, with his special  
idiot powers concerning all things  
electrical, he fixed up my Commander  
so that its camera shows up as a  
picture on the TV.

NICHELE

Finally!

ALEX

It's in one of those picture in a  
picture dealies.

ALEX (cont.)

So now I can watch my stories and keep an eye on the little one's as they make their way to and from the mine. I can't work with 'em, I'm on disability because of my lungs...  
(starts coughing)

We hear the phone disconnect and the Skype screen vanishes

NICHELE

Isn't that great! Keeping an eye out for her kids and being able to watch her favorite TV shows. What a time saver!

(looks into camera)

You know this is all plug and play, and it's so easy even an...Idi...a...stup...a...I mean a child could do it, right? And Compulsives, don't forget that it comes with a complimentary three months free technical support

GORT (O.S.)

Argh! This stupid piece of ~~shit~~...

INT. YCSN RECEPTION DESK

SUZE WONDERLICK the intern is staffing the desk. She's a young goth, purple hair, black lipstick and a pale complexion. Her earbuds are unplugged as she's actually had to work for a couple of minutes.

Two security cops are dragging a swarthy, unshaven man in a cheap suit away from the desk.

SWARTHY MAN

(indistinct accent)

But I know it came from here. We tracked it, we followed it all the way from our house. The drone. I know you sent it. Let me talk to the Commander! Why are you spying on us? Why? We have done nothing wrong, what are you people doing? I don't build bombs, I build clocks and little houses.

(MORE)

SWARTHY MAN (cont.)

What's wrong with building clocks and little houses, clocks don't hurt you, they just tell time, little houses don't hurt you, they just provide a home for little people. What's wrong with just being able to tell the time and little people having a home?

The man is dragged out of the frame while his complaints trail off. Idora watches this and walks up to Suze's desk.

IDORA

Wow. Hi. Suze, right? What was that all about?

Suze picks up her vaping pipe and takes a hit.

SUZE

I don't know. Crazy old dude, and he smelled weird, like a cross between old socks, cheap wine, body odor and stale hummus. You heard him, he kept demanding to talk to the Commander. Not the President but the Commander. How weird is that?

IDORA

That's pretty out there. Listen, Suze. I've been expecting something, did anybody call in asking for me?

SUZE

No, it's been dead here. I was kinda glad that crazy showed up, gave me a least a little excitement.

Idora leans in and looks at Suze's computer.

IDORA

What's that?

SUZE

This? Oh, I'm just checking stock prices. It's kinda like my hobby. But it's not like it's interfering with my job or anything.

IDORA

I get it, don't worry, we don't mind a little bit of unauthorized web use. We all have to stay a little sane, right? I wish I had time to...well, never mind.

SUZE

Do you want me to stop surfing?

IDORA

No, that's all right. Just be careful if anybody important drops by. I mean, use your judgment, right? Don't worry about it.

(forced smile)

Oh, and if you could text me if anybody is trying to get a hold of me? I have to get going.

SUZE

Sure, no problem. Take care.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Nichele and Gort continue the segment.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in the lower right.

INSERT

Text scroll at bottom of screen: HOST ELIMINATOR (BACKSPACE)  
PET ELIM (BACKSPACE) PEST ELIMINATOR ITEM PE1NS23R

Gort is frantically typing into his phone. The rear projection shows the Blue Screen Of Death. A robot vacuum is acting like it's attached to Nichele, nipping at her heels. She's got a device in her hand that is emitting a very loud, obnoxious tone.

Nichele is trying to remain calm, but has to shout loud enough to be heard over the loud noise the device is making.

NICHELE

The Pest Eliminator 1 from National Safety, I'm sorry, I have it on the wrong...

She pushes a button on the device and the noise stops.

NICHELE (cont.)

...wrong setting, whew.  
Sorry that was the intruder alert, that noise is designed to wake you up if anything from a Raccoon to a M1 Abrams Tank enters your home.

(thinks)

Though I guess a tank would be pretty loud too, huh?

Nichele attempts to recover her composure while still kicking at the robot vac.

NICHELE (cont.)

The other setting is where the Pest Eliminator 1 emits a noise harmful to rodents but it's out of the range of human hearing. That's the noise it's making now.

The device is now completely silent.

NICHELE (cont.)

The Pest Eliminator is a safe, clean and effective way to rid your home of pests and warn you of intruders. Only Seventy nine fifty for four zone coverage, that's 8 individual monitors plus the main module which can connect with up to 16 additional monitors. Then there's the optional safety patrol subscription feature. This is where National Safety will call, email or text you any time a Pest enters specific zones within your home, yard, garage or garden. Make your home a no pest zone with National Safety's Pest Eliminator 1, that's item Penis 23 R, I mean PE1 NS 23 R.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Portia's door opens. Frank exits and heads down the hall adjusting his clothes.

POV DRONE

Drone exits the office and flies down the hall in the opposite direction from Frank, toward the set.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

The Hi Tech Zone segment is wrapping up.

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in the lower right.

Against the chaos of the BSOD, the rabid robot at Nichele's heels and Gort still struggling with a phone app, Idora is a picture of calm as she wraps up the segment

IDORA

Well Compulsives, we've reached the end of this segment, but Gort and Nichele will be back later this week with more hi-tech goodies.

The drone gently settles down on a table next to her. She looks at it, at first startled but then she smiles and pantomimes stroking it like a cat.

IDORA

(facing the camera)

I love it, it lands itself, guys this is great. If only I could get my Sylvester to behave like that. Well don't go anywhere, we've got lots more coming up including one of my personal favorites, Mystical Meal Connections, featuring the Castenada of the Outback, the Wizard of Oz, Ahs and Ah Ha's, Chef Daniel Wallaby. He'll be creating recipes that promise to alleviate depression, elevate moods and enhance spiritual awareness.

IDORA (cont.)

Join us as he shares his special  
skills and products to produce meals  
that extend the scope of one's  
reality far past the kitchen walls  
that bind us all in the mundane! Rip  
up those recipes and take the  
journey!

(smiling)

Stay with us Compulsives, we'll be  
right back on YCSN, Your Compulsive  
Shopping Network. Happy Shopping!

# CREDITS

SONG: PEPPY K-POP 강박 구매자 (The Obsessive Shopper)

SINGER

(shouted)

I'm compulsive!

(singing)

Sometimes I'm angry

Sometimes I'm sad

But I've got a secret

Something always makes me happy

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

Sometimes I feel sick

Sometimes I feel blue

But I've got a secret

I'm always happy shopping

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

(shouted)

신발, 옷, 목도리, 바지, 가방, 팔찌 (Fade)

COMPULSIVE SHOPPING NETWORK  
#102 "This Business of Selling"

Written by  
Dayle C. Hall

© 2017

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BLACK SCREEN

OPENING CREDITS

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(officious voice)

Compulsive buying disorder or CBD or oniomania, from the Greek onios "for sale" and manía or "insanity", is characterized by an obsession with shopping and buying behavior that often causes adverse consequences. YCSN is not responsible for any adverse consequences that may result from a pre-existing compulsive buying disorder. If you think you or someone you know is suffering from this condition please seek the help of a licensed professional. With proper treatment this condition can *sometimes* be successfully treated.

DESHWA'AN (V.O.)

Cinco, Quatro, Tres, Dos, Uno

We hear five electronic blips of a time code.

We see the back of a hand counting down from five but out of sync from the countdown and the blips. After one (middle finger) the finger points away from the camera.

INT. SUDIO - NIGHT

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora is presenting a new product.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in the lower right.

INSERT

"Jonas Glorio Designs" logo in lower left.

INSERT

Crawl at bottom shows: "SPECIAL PRODUCT - SPECIAL PRICING!"

Idora is dressed in a casual chic style, something that accents her physical assets. She has her tablet in one hand and is wearing the 'I'm Compulsive' button. She looks into the camera and smiles.

IDORA

(big smile)

Welcome home, Compulsives. Good evening or is it good morning? I'm not used to working the late shift here, but I have to say that  
(almost giggling)  
this place is a little different at this hour.

She looks off camera toward someone on the crew.

IDORA (cont.)

I said different, not weird. It is just coffee, right, you didn't put anything into it? I don't know, I feel a little...different.

(directly at camera)

And speaking of different, we decided to introduce a terrific new product at this special time. Some of you, and I'm talking about those who have joined Club Compulsive, have an idea why we're here at this late hour. If you're not part of Club Compulsive, you're missing out on a lot of fun. Take a look at our site. It's super easy to join!

INSERT

URL appears very briefly on screen:

"[https://www.ycsn.com/club\\_compulsive\\_exclusive~nextpage/join.html](https://www.ycsn.com/club_compulsive_exclusive~nextpage/join.html)"

IDORA (cont.)

Club Compulsive is like belonging to an exclusive members-only hangout. You get previews, deals, highlights and Compulsive Cash. Think about it as your ticket to fun shopping, guilt free pleasure, am I right? No one knows but us, and I'll never tell.

Idora gives a conspiratorial wink.

IDORA (cont.)

Tonight only, if you're a CC member, and you call in your order or order online with your CC code, you'll receive an additional 10 dollars of Compulsive Cash! Pretty neat, huh? And I just know you're going to love this next product. Well you'd have to be living under a rock not to know my guest host, he's been the beauty expert to royalty, stars and celebrities for almost a decade, please welcome Jonas Glorio, president of Jonas Glorio Designs.

Idora puts her tablet under her arm and applauds (along with a couple of people in the studio).

JONAS GLORIO is slim, has long hair in a pair of pony tails and a very well trimmed beard. He's wearing skinny jeans, a white long sleeved shirt and a black vest. He has a large earring in one ear and some large Indian turquoise around his neck. His voice is a bit high pitched (almost refined British accent - think Estuary masquerading as Posh with a touch of a lisp) and his movements are fluid, deliberate, but effeminate. Despite his bearing, he's a great salesman.

Jonas air kisses Idora and looks into the camera.

JONAS

Hi Compulsives!  
(he waves and  
giggles)  
I seem a little giddy tonight, huh?

CREW MEMBER (O.S.)

(indistinctly)  
That makes three of us, we're all a  
bit gone tonight, Jonas!

JONAS

What? Hah, hah, well sure, that's  
because we're excited to have  
something special for you  
Compulsives.

Jonas rubs his hands together and speaks with an affected Cocknet accent.

JONAS (cont.)

We've been busy in the workshop, we  
'ave.

(MORE)

JONAS (cont.)

(normal voice)

I've had my laboratory work directly with Your Compulsive Shopping Network to develop a product that we think you won't be able to live without.

IDORA

That's right Jonas. And Compulsives, I don't know if you know this or not, but one of the...I don't know...perks of working at here at the network is that we get some sneak previews of our products - sometimes we get to try out an item months before it's released. So I can tell you, I'm as excited as Jonas to be part of this roll out, this debut. And I gotta say that it's all thanks to you. Because of your support, YCSN is able to present an offer that you truly can't get anywhere else. That's because it's our product.

JONAS

That's right, Idora. What we're about to show you is the result of years of research into the process of aging. We have a product that has been shown to stop and in some cases reverse the process altogether.

(big smile)

No, it's not the fountain of youth, but it may just keep father time in a choke hold until a modern day Cortez figures it out. We can't stop aging, but in the mean time...

Idora and Jonas walk over to stage left where the product D.D.T. is being predominantly displayed. A model sits in a chair, her hair tied into a single, long ponytail. We don't know yet who it is.

JONAS (cont.)

In Southeast Asia, there's a fruit called Durian. It's considered a delicacy and consumed by millions. They consume it because of its unique taste, but recent independent tests have shown that Durian actually contains natural healing properties.

(MORE)

JONAS (cont.)

These special properties not only stop the deterioration of skin cells, but they may actually reverse the damage.

He picks up the product and displays it to the camera)

JONAS (cont.)

So we're now proud to present D.D.T., Durian DeTox!

BLACK OUT

INSERT

Text briefly appears on screen: "ROUGHLY SIX MONTHS AGO"

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

Portia, Frank, Idora, Deshaw'an and MANAGER FU (a sharp, attractive and well-dressed Chinese-American woman) are all seated. They all are taking notes on their tablets or phones. We join the meeting in progress.

FRANK

...still see the need for a private label product. The trick has been to find the right one, the right product to fill the right need. We thought we were on the right track with a certain product based on the idea of Kopi Luwak. As you know, that coffee is some expensive ~~shit~~, pun not intended, you can pay \$250.00 for a less than a pound. We thought we could develop our own brand that we could sell for far less, but still enough to be considered a Premium Brand. Well, not to bore you with the details, but we found a coffee supplier in the Philippines, Batangas Barako Coffee. We also leased a modest sized factory and filled it with small animals to, um, process the coffee in the same manner that the Civets do.

(MORE)

FRANK (cont.)

Civets are those small creatures, I think they're technically mammals, that eat the coffee beans and, uh, you know. But there were health concerns with these animals.

MANAGER FU

Let's be frank, Frank. They were rats. We were using rats, and it became hard to control their population. We were originally sold on a perpetual motion type of scam - this was set up by my predecessor, but as I understand it, we were going to take care of the excess population of rats by feeding them...rats, after we had skinned them, the idea being that the fur was going to be used for slipper linings. But like I said, we couldn't control the population and a bunch of them got loose.

FRANK

Well, yes, so we 86'd the rats as that factory *mysteriously* caught fire. So we searched around for animals that we could control and that's when we centered on dogs, still messy but easier to control and I know you've all seen a dog chow down when they're hungry, and with canned food, hey, they hardly chew at all. We set up a new factory in Ibaan, *with...*appropriate sanitation protocols. But rumors developed that we weren't using civets or dogs.

INSERT

The Brown mountain label takes up the screen. It shows a stylized painting of young Filipino kids looking a bit somber.

PORTIA (V.O.)

That damn graphic did us in. I can't begin to tell you the kind of rumors that picture started.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

IDORA

(clueless)

People thought we used child labor to pick the beans?

FRANK

You're really unfamiliar with Kopi Luwak, right? They didn't think the kids were used to pick the beans, they thought that the kids were used to uhm...process the beans.

IDORA

What? Eeu. That's disgusting.

FRANK

Well a couple of sites reported it and before long we had to send out press releases denying it and...it wasn't pretty and the damage was already done. We took a financial hit and lost some goodwill from our shoppers, mainly because of that graphic. Well that graphic and Benny.

IDORA

Who's Benny?

MANAGER FU

Before your time, Idora. Roland "Benny" Selso worked as a buyer for us for almost a year. He was able to leverage his contacts in the Philippines into getting us deals, some great and some not so much. The coffee deal was pretty great, it was sold to us at way below cost and we stood to make a killing. But after all the bad press all we were able to do was amortize some of the losses by using the beans in our scented candle line, which wasn't technically a private label deal as we sold the beans to the candle company, even though again technically, we owned part of the candle company through a buy back scheme. It wasn't a small loss, but we recovered pretty well.

DESHAW'AN  
What does that bullshit actually  
mean? You buried the losses?

MANAGER FU  
Not so much buried as...spread them  
around.

DESHAW'AN  
(impressed)  
Sweet Jesus.

MANAGER FU  
Which brings us to Benny's last  
folly. Do you know what Durian is?

PORTIA, FRANK and DESHAW'AN  
Eeeeeuuu! (etc.)

IDORA  
I think I've heard of that, isn't it  
some kind of tropical fruit?

FRANK  
Well...yes, it's like a tropical  
fruit crossed with a bowling ball  
covered in spikes and if you crack it  
open it smells like...old burning  
tires, a slow sewer on a hot day,  
rotting eggs...

IDORA  
People eat this?

MANAGER FU  
It's quite the delicacy.

DESHAW'AN  
With your people?

MANAGER FU  
(coldly)  
My people in Philadelphia?

DESHAW'AN  
My bad, I thought...never mind

MANAGER FU  
(ignores the slight)  
I've actually never tried it, but  
I've passed by some markets and it's  
pretty pungent.

PORTIA

Pungent doesn't begin to describe it. It's horrible. Benny brought in some ice cream made from the stuff and it was like eating cold, mushy gym socks.

IDORA

I don't get it. If it's so horrible, why are we even talking about it?

FRANK

Well...Benny's last act was to saddle us with a couple of warehouses full of Durian. Which are rapidly becoming ripe, by which I mean *ripe*.

IDORA

So where's Benny now?

MANAGER FU

Well, after acquiring this...treasure trove of rotting fruit which smells like rotting fruit even before it rots, he was inspecting one of our warehouses that was full of them and as luck would have it, one fell directly on his head splitting it open, the fruit, not his head. I talked with Ingrid in HR and she says that since then, Benny has extreme headaches, is afraid of all fruit irrespective of size and has lost his sense of smell.

FRANK

(interrupting)

No, that's not right, he hasn't really lost it, I'm told that it's just that now everything smells awful.

DESHWA'AN

You mean like Durian.

MANAGER FU

Whatever.

IDORA

Poor guy, that sounds terrible.

MANAGER FU

I guess, but save the sympathy because he's suing us. Legal is still trying to dispute it as it wasn't technically our warehouse and Benny was acting alone on acquiring all of the fruit. It's a bit tricky because his position was always a bit of a hybrid between a full employee of the network and an independent contractor.

PORTIA

Benny's lawsuit aside, the problem is that we have a couple of warehouses full of some sulfurous spiky bowling balls. What can we do with them?

DESHAW'AN

Lawn ornaments? Holiday treats from the Southeast Asia? We can't sell alcohol, right? But what about some kind of rum drink? Maybe sell it as a mix?

PORTIA

Our kitchen staff has tried to make something edible or drinkable out of these...things. So far it all tastes like sweetened cow dung, or what I would expect sweet cow dung to taste like.

IDORA

So you're saying that it's pretty much inedible? Why is it so popular?

FRANK

As I said, it's an *acquired* taste.

IDORA

OK, so what if, and I'm just talking off the top of my head, but what if what we created was more of a topical?

FRANK

Topical? Like a skin cream?

IDORA

(disappointed)

OK, lame idea, let's move on.

MANAGER FU

Not so fast. That's not a bad idea.  
Think about this, start with  
Retinol - that's a Vitamin A  
derivative, then add some humectant,  
something like Propylene Glycol,  
sodium laurel sulfate, some inert  
cream and the...essence of Durian.

FRANK

Not bad, sort of like the...spit-  
balling here...beauty secrets of the  
Polynesian Islands

IDORA

(looking at her  
tablet)

Well, not really Polynesia, Google  
says that it's more South East Asia,  
Thailand and...around there.

FRANK

OK, let's just say that it's  
something that has been known to Far  
East beauties for centuries, but now,  
YSCN in collaboration with...I don't  
know, we need a shill, I mean an  
imprint, hell, you know what I mean.

PORTIA

What about Jonas?

IDORA

Jonas?

MANAGER FU

Jonas Glorio.

INSERT

Still picture of Jonas in all his glory, short shorts,  
roller blades, cropped top and holding a multicolored flag  
above his head.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

MANAGER FU

He does makeup, jewelry and hair  
shows. His numbers are pretty good,  
I think people relate well to him.

(MORE)

MANAGER FU (cont.)

It's funny, his numbers are off the charts with women 29 to 49 but it's also surprisingly high with straight Males 45 to 59. We're still trying to parse that.

DESHWA'AN

Straight guys actually watch the network?

MANAGER FU

I know, right?

FRANK

(louder, trying to  
get back on track)

Anyway, we put Jonas' imprint on it and run it as a combination beauty cream and facial detox, keeps you looking young and all of that. It might work. Manager Fu, can you talk to Jonas and some of the companies whose products we're already selling? Use that as a lever, they want to sell more of their lipstick, perfume, whatever, they'll need to help us out with the manufacturing of this stuff.

MANAGER FU

Sure thing. I assume I have to rush this a bit?

DESHAW'AN

Well it sounds like if we wait much longer, we won't have a facial cream, we'll have a couple of toxic superfund sites.

PORTIA

Deshaw'an's right, time is of the essence. Manager Fu, if you can get back to me personally within the next day or two that would be great. We'll see where we stand.

Everyone starts to get up.

PORTIA

Wait a second people, we're not done here.

(MORE)

PORTIA (cont.)

Idora and Deshaw'an, I watched a little of last night's show. Where's the energy? We're being invited into people's homes, we need to make them feel welcome. Remember, every interaction with every product, host, guest and Compulsive is a moment of truth. If we don't make our viewers and shoppers feel welcome, they'll find another channel to watch and other products to buy. I don't have to tell you that that would be a very bad thing, right? We're here to what?

IDORA

Make shopping fun?

FRANK

Shopping isn't fun, it's a drug. It's a *wonderful* drug. It stimulates the pleasure centers of the brain. It's our job to erase the guilt of our Compulsives. If they have second thoughts, they won't pull the trigger.

IDORA

So we're here to...

PORTIA

Make our shoppers feel relaxed and at home. This is their home, their channel, their website, their hosts and their products.

FRANK

And our money.

PORTIA

(smiling)

Well, we truly want to give them their money's worth. We want to give our shoppers an aspirational journey. We want to make their lives better. Try to put a price on that.

(looks at tablet)

Oh, and don't forget, we've got a couple of meetings coming up.

(MORE)

PORTIA (cont.)

These are mandatory. HR wants to go over the upcoming changes to our medical plan and some of you still haven't taken the sexual harassment course.

DESHAW'AN

I don't need to take a course on sexual harassment.

MANAGER FU

Of course not. As I hear it, you wrote the book on...

PORTIA

Enough, we don't want to drag this all down to...never mind. If you can't attend the HR meeting in person we'll email you the link and the phone number to call for a webex, and for God's sake, mute your phones this time. That's all, Happy Selling!

They all respond with various amounts of enthusiasm.

ALL

Happy Selling!

INSERT

Text briefly appears on screen: "A LITTLE OVER SIX HOURS AGO"

DRONE POV

Manager Fu standing at the front desk having an animated conversation with Suze.

MANAGER FU

What do you mean, he's sick? Why didn't you get a hold of me?

SUZE

I tried. I, uhm, texted you that like ten minutes ago.

MANAGER FU

What did he say?

SUZE

Something about an outbreak in the science lab? He said it was an emergency, it sounded like he was calling from an ambulance, I mean the siren was really loud.

MANAGER FU

That's just great. We were counting on him to...never mind, I have to talk to the director.

Drone follows Manager Fu as she leaves the reception desk and walks down the hall into the break room.

INT. BREAK ROOM - DAY

Manager Fu is standing and Deshaw'an is seated, eating his lunch.

MANAGER FU

We lost our geek.

DESHAW'AN

(eating a sandwich)

Who's that?

MANAGER FU

The science guy. He's supposed to do the explanation of that smelly stuff.

DESHAW'AN

Can't we get someone else?

MANAGER FU

Another scientist? You think they grow on trees?

DESHAW'AN

What? Nah, it doesn't have to be a real scientist. Just get some actor. Put on some nobody, preferably some nerdy guy, dress them in a white coat and throw some fuzzy graphics on the screen. You already have the main talking points, just get him to memorize them.

MANAGER FU

Just like that?

DESHAW'AN

Sure, it's what they do. It's what we do. Skin cell walls, blah, blah, blah, Ultra Violet Rays, blah, blah, blah, Druian blah, blah, blah. Piece of cake. I'd do it, but I don't make a believable nerd and besides, I've got to be behind the camera, not in front of it.

MANAGER FU

Is that even legal? Isn't there an FCC rule against that?

Deshwa'an shrugs.

DESHWAN'AN

Manager Fu, you're overthinking this. Call him a "Skin Technician", no wait, world renowned, no, just renowned Skin Technician Bob Smith or Ollie Jones or Abe Rebinovitch.

MANAGER FU

Isn't that lying?

DESHAW'AN

That's not lying. That's called selling. Haven't you heard? Bull ~~shit~~ is the new currency.

(Ironic grin)

Happy Selling.

INSERT

Text briefly appears on screen: "LESS THAN FIVE HOURS AGO"

INT. SMALL ROOM - DAY

The window shades are down and an occasionally flickering florescent light casts an unhealthy yellow glow. There's a single table in the center. Manager Fu sits at one side and ALFRED "FRED" FREDRICKSON sits on the other. Fred is a Hollywood model with questionable acting chops.

MANAGER FU

Read again from "we've found..."

FRED  
(in an exaggerated  
announcer-type  
voice)  
We've found that certain elements...

MANAGER FU  
No, no, no, you're not a non-attorney  
paid spokesperson. You're a science  
guy, a nerd.

FRED  
But none of this stuff makes any  
sense. Is any of this stuff real?

MANAGER FU  
(lying)  
Of course it is. It's all double  
blind tested and...real. It's all  
based on science.

FRED  
I don't know, it just seems like a  
bunch of words thrown together.

MANAGER FU  
Mr....  
(looks at her  
tablet)  
Fredrickson, right? Have you ever  
acted in any Shakespeare plays?

FRED  
(proudly)  
Of course, who hasn't? I played  
Coriolanas in stock. The director  
even had me read Plutarch to fully  
understand the character, which was  
interesting because Shakespeare makes  
him more humble, I guess that makes  
him more relate-able...

MANAGER FU  
So you're telling me you understood  
everything about the play?

FRED  
Sure.

MANAGER FU  
Everything?

FRED

Well, OK, not literally everything.  
Most of it, though. But some of that  
stuff is hard. It's like a foreign  
language.

MANAGER FU

My point exactly.

Manager Fu thrusts a script at Fred.

MANAGER FU

You've got a few hours to learn this,  
if there's anything you don't  
understand, Google it. I'm going to  
be busy for a while. The chef isn't  
working tonight, so if you get  
hungry, go ahead and get something to  
eat from a food truck, they park out  
there by Second, or there's a coffee  
shop down the street. Keep your  
receipt, if you finish the job we'll  
reimburse you. Well, up to \$25.00.

Manager Fu leaves.

FRED

(calling out)

What about parking? Hello? Crap.

(British accent)

Melanin reacts with natural  
exfoliates of the Durio Zibethinus to  
produce a rich harmony of,

(real voice)

no that's not right.

(German accent)

Melanin reacts with natural  
exfoliates of the Durio Zibethinus to  
produce a rich harmony of...

INSERT

Text briefly appears on screen: "EXACTLY FOUR HOURS AGO"

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

Jonas, Frank and Portia are seated in the downstage chairs  
and each have an open tub of D.D.T. on the coffee table in  
front of them and they are obviously reeling from the smell.

JONAS

Jesus, this smells awful, I thought you said they would fix this?

FRANK

I've got to agree with Jonas on this. Portia, this is horrible. Who would buy this, it smells terrible, like honey poured over sulfur.

PORTIA

You have to change your perspective. We can't reinforce the negative, we have to capture the essence in a positive light.

JONAS

It's positively revolting is what it is. Portia, we can't sell this, it smells like crap. Nobody is going to buy this, it's awful.

PORTIA

I tell you, we have to accent its uniqueness. It doesn't smell terrible, it smells Exotic.

FRANK

Really, did they have to include the smell?

PORTIA

(to herself)

They said that they couldn't get it out.

FRANK

Well I don't see how we can smell, I mean sell this. We'd get killed on the returns. I recommend pulling the plug on this one. Gotta to know when to fold and all that.

PORTIA

We've already committed a lot of funds to this.

FRANK

(thinking)

OK, so we do a soft-opening. Put it on late at night, the numbers won't be great but we can gauge the reactions.

(MORE)

FRANK (cont.)

If we have to offer refunds, it won't kill us.

PORTIA

No, that goes against my grain. We can put it on late at night, but I think we should promote it as an exclusive.

JONAS

Exclusive? I don't think we can sell this for twenty five bucks.

PORTIA

We'll make it one hundred and twenty five. Remember, aspirational value.

FRANK

What about returns? God knows, the way this stuff stinks, we're likely to be flooded with them.

PORTIA

So we credit them in Compulsive Cash.

JONAS

Is that even legal?

PORTIA

Does that matter? Frank, could you make a note to talk about this with Cheryl, see what kind of verbiage our lawyers can come up with to protect us from giving up a lot of money. We need to charge return or restocking fees, some kind of gotcha.

JONAS

Un-freaking believable. We're really going through with this? I don't know what you call this funny business, but I think it's navigating pretty close to all out fraud.

PORTIA

Jonas, there's nothing funny about this business of selling.

INSERT

Text briefly appears on screen: "MAYBE THREE HOURS AGO"

INT. STUDIO - DAY

Deshaw'an (wearing a Phillies cap) is trying to get people together for a quick run-through. Idora, Jonas and Fred the actor are all at their respective places.

JONAS  
(aggravated)  
Where's the model?

IDORA  
What?

JONAS  
The model. Where's the bloody model?

IDORA  
Deshwa'an, did you hire a model?

DESHWA'AN  
Do I look like HR to you?

IDORA  
Didn't anybody? Crapples.

DESHWA'AN  
Crapples?

IDORA  
(ignoring Deshwa'an)  
Look it's getting late, I don't think we can find anybody at this hour.

JONAS  
Is there anybody who works here who could do it? It's doesn't require much bloody talent, they just have to sit there and smile and nod when appropriate.  
(petulant)  
I need a model!

DESHWA'AN  
What about the temp at the front desk. Suze?

JONAS  
Bloody hell, her skin is white, I mean f-f-f-f-f white. We need someone a bit more...ethnic. The whole point of the thing is beauty secrets of the mysterious east or some such drivel.

(MORE)

JONAS (cont.)

We can't have some goth Scandinavian  
as a model.

DESHWA'AN

(Thinking)

OK then, what about Manager Fu?

JONAS

Who?

INSERT

Text briefly appears on screen: "AROUND TWO HOURS AGO"

INT. MANAGER FU'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Deshwa'an is standing and Manager Fu is seated facing away  
from the camera. She turns around in obvious displeasure.

MANAGER FU

No. Absolutely not. I'm not a  
model, and I'm not some Far East  
exotic. I went to Brashear High and  
Carnegie Mellon, with a major in  
Finance. I'm sorry I can't do it.

DESHWA'AN

We wouldn't ask you if we weren't a  
little...desperate. Jonas is  
freaking, he can't do the gig without  
a model, it's part of his MO.

MANAGER FU

Did you hear anything I said? What  
makes you think I could do this?

DESHWA'AN

Come on, I mean it's not that tough.  
You sit in a chair, smile and have  
Jonas massage this smelly ~~shit~~ onto  
your face for twenty minutes.

MANAGER FU

I'm not a model.

DESHWA'AN

Well, you could be, I mean you could  
have been. You look nice, you could  
do this. I mean, if you don't want  
to, we'll see what else we can do,  
but we don't have a lot of time.

MANAGER FU  
You think I look nice?

DESHWA'AN  
Sure.  
(backtracking,  
embarrassed)  
I mean, all you have to do is sit  
there.

MANAGER FU  
But my grandma watches this show  
religiously. She'll know it's me,  
how do I explain...

DESHWA'AN  
Don't worry. Your face will be  
covered in green goo. Just breathe  
through your mouth and smile.

MANGER FU  
(weakening)  
I don't know.

INSERT

Text briefly appears on screen: "FIFTY SEVEN AND A HALF  
MINUTES AGO"

INSERT

SCREEN SPLIT INTO FOUR QUADRANTS

First, in the upper left is Fred practicing his lines and  
occasionally looking up stuff on Google.

Second, in the upper right is Manager Fu holding up various  
outfits and checking herself out in a mirror.

Third, in the lower left are Jonas and Deshwa'an having a  
couple of snorts.

Fourth, in the lower right are Portia and Frank making out.

BLACK OUT

INSERT

Text briefly appears on screen: "NOW"

INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora is stage right, Jonas is to her left and is messaging some green stuff onto the model's (Manager Fu) face. Her smile is forced and it's obvious that the smell is more than a little overwhelming. Stage left features a large screen showing a blow up of skin cells.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in the lower right.

JONAS

Think about it, what is the one thing separating the present day you from the younger you? It's your skin! As we age, our skin changes, developing spots and losing its elasticity. But we've found a solution.

(chuckling)

No, we haven't time traveled, but we have traveled all over the world looking for beauty secrets and we wound up in the South Pacific. Did you ever wonder how those island beauties keep their silken smooth skin, even while being exposed to bright and harmful UV rays? The answer may surprise you.

IDORA

But don't take our word for it.  
Let's bring on renowned skin  
technician...

Idora looks at the name on her tablet and isn't quite sure it's correct.

IDORA (cont.)

Ollie Rabinovitch.

We hear scattered applause from the cast and crew.

Fred the actor walks in from stage left and waves. He's holding a clipboard which clearly has his script on it. As Doctor Ollie, Frank speaks in a thick, New York, Jewish accent.

FRED/OLLIE

Jonas, I have to correct you on this.  
It's not really the South Pacific,  
it's more like Thailand, Vietnam,  
Cambodia, around there. It's often  
referred to as the Golden Triangle.  
Well we found this beauty secret  
that's truly golden and merged it  
with today's technology to bring you  
D.D.T., Durian DeTox. How does it  
work, I hear you asking?

INT. CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

DESHWA'AN

Where the fuck did that accent come  
from?

INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in the lower right.

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Fred as Ollie continues.

FRED/OLLIE

Well first, let's take a moment to  
talk about the science behind Durian  
DeTox, shall we?

INSERT

A slide of healthy skin cells takes up the entire screen

FRED/OLLIE (V.O.)

These are normal, healthy skin cells.  
But look what happens when you  
subject these cells to UV light,  
pollutants and stress.

INSERT

Image changes to shots of obviously damaged (by fire, insect bites, disease etc.) skin followed by a drawing of damaged skin cells

FRED/OLLIE (V.O.)  
(avuncular twinkle)  
Do you know what your largest organ  
is?

INT. CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

DESHWA'AN:  
Anybody, please tell me you know  
where he's going with this? We're on  
delay right?

INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right.

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Fred is standing in front of the back screen showing damaged skin cells.

FRED/OLLIE  
You might be surprised at the answer.  
It's your skin. That's right, your  
skin is your largest organ, averaging  
8 pounds and 22 square feet. That's  
a lot! And just think about it,  
every day you put your largest organ  
through the equivalent of the Bataan  
Memorial Death March, subjecting it  
to harmful stressors that we take for  
granted. And how do you reward your  
skin for putting up with this? You  
(air quotes)  
"wash" your skin with  
(air quotes)  
"soap". But what is soap? Well what  
we call  
(air quotes)  
"soap" is really just animal fat,  
(MORE)

FRED/OLLIE (cont.)  
vegetable oils and  
(air quotes)  
"lye" which is usually sodium or  
potassium hydroxide.  
(cheerfully)  
You might as well be scrubbing your  
face with a porcupine, or 24 grit  
sandpaper, or a flamethrower.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

DESHWA'AN  
(into mic)  
OK Fred, that's a bit over the top,  
dial it down and let's stick to the  
script, OK?

INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

INSERT

"YCSN" bug is in the lower right.

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Fred is still standing in front of the screen which now  
shows the chemical breakdown of a typical soap, scientific  
mumbo-jumbo.

FRED/OLLIE  
(hand to earbud)  
Huh?  
(facing camera)  
Think about it, Compulsives, aside  
from all the harmful environmental  
stress you put your skin through  
everyday, you are scraping away the  
dead cells with harmful chemicals.  
It's a lose-lose proposition.

Fred picks up a large Durian in his hand.

FRED/OLLIE (cont.)  
It used to be that we had to live  
with the ravages of time, but not  
anymore.

(MORE)

FRED/OLLIE (cont.)

Jonas Glorio Designs in cooperation with Your Compulsive Shopping Network have created an amazing product. This modern miracle can not only slow skin damage but it has been shown to, in some cases, actually reverse the process. The product is based on a tropical fruit called the Durian. And the Durian is a very special fruit.

The Durian in Fred's hand should take up most of the screen. Fred's hand shakes a bit from the weight of the fruit.

FRED/OLLIE (V.O.)

If you think about fruits and vegetables as musical instruments, a carrot with its vitamin A would be like a wimpy flute. An orange is like a muted trumpet, full of vitamin C. But a Durian is like plopping yourself onto the keys of a piano, unleashing a panoply of vitamins and minerals, a virtual symphony of healthful, healing organic essentials that unleash a profound chord, a cornucopia of actual rejuvenating properties. And your own melanin reacts with the natural exfoliates of the Durio Zibethinus to produce a rich harmony that pampers your skin and makes you look and feel years younger.

INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

INSERT

Left side of screen: "YCSN AND JONAS GLORIO DESIGNS DURIAN DETOX, ITEM NUMBER JGDDT10012, ~~\$279.95~~ ~~\$149.99~~ \$125.59" (flashing)

Jonas and Idora have their mouths open and Manager Fu has her face covered in a viscous green goo. Although she is smiling, it's forced and it's clear that she is under some distress. Idora is holding an open tub of D.D.T. and quickly recovers her composure.

IDORA

I'm telling you, Compulsives, a  
nightly Durian mask keeps my skin  
feeling young, elastic and...

Idora covers her mouth trying to hide her gag reflex.

IDORA (cont.)

...healthy...

Idora covers her mouth again.

IDORA (cont.)

Jonas?

We can just make out Idora high tailing it off set, ready to  
lose her lunch.

JONAS

Yes, well when you first apply my  
Durian DeTox, you may notice its  
exotic smell and your skin will  
tingle a bit. That's a sign that  
it's already going to work, restoring  
your damaged skin cells.

CREW MEMBER (O.S.)

Euuuu!

JONAS

And as a special introductory offer,  
YCSN is offering a year's supply of  
my Durian DeTox for only pennies a  
day.

Idora rejoins the shot

IDORA

That's right, Jonas, we're delighted  
to offer this one time only special  
pricing on a unique product  
(starts to choke)  
Just \$125.59 for a large tub of  
D.D.T., that's enough to last you a  
year...

MANAGER FU  
(sotto voce)  
Or a lifetime.

IDORA  
...along with a six month supply of  
our special application gloves and  
wand, why that's almost a twenty  
dollar value on its own...excuse  
me...

Idora bolts off camera again).

JONAS  
We've sold a lot of things here on  
YCSN and I can't say I have ever felt  
this way about a new product.  
(to Manager Fu)  
Can you feel that slight stinging?

Manager Fu says something that's unintelligible, smiles a  
forced smile and shakes her head no, than changes it to yes.  
Idora returns, maybe her blouse has an indistinct stain on  
it.

IDORA  
I can't promise you much, but I can  
promise you that this deal won't  
last. \$125.59, wow, just wow, right?  
And Compulsives, don't forget that we  
stand behind what we sell. Jonas  
Glorio's D.D.T. comes with our  
standard guarantee, as long as the  
product seal hasn't been tampered  
with, you can return the product for  
its full value in the equivalent of  
Compulsive Cash.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

ASSISTANT  
(to Deshwa'an)  
Is that even legal?

INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in the lower right.

INSERT

ON SCREEN

The segment continues.

INSERT

Scroll at the bottom of the screen: "ALL RETURNS SUBJECT TO  
25% SHIPPING, HANDLING AND RESTOCKING FEE"

MANAGER FU  
(starting a sneezing  
jag)  
Aaachoo!

FRED  
(off camera and in  
his normal voice)  
Am I done here?

We hear the scratchy sound of Fred's mic being removed.

FRED  
And who do I turn these receipts  
into? I was told you would cover  
parking and...  
(indistinct)

MANAGER FU  
Aaaa...choo!

IDORA  
Bless, you, bless us all and bless  
your face with the magic healing  
power of the...

Idora puts her hand over her mouth covering her gag reflex  
again.

IDORA (cont.)  
...the Durian.

She speaks at a faster rate, trying to finish before losing  
it.

IDORA (cont.)  
That's Jonas Glorio's Durian DeTox,  
Item number JGDDT10012, \$125.99 for a  
year's supply, operators are standing  
by.

INT. EMPTY BOILER ROOM - NIGHT

INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right.

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Fred is walking off, Jonas and Idora are trying to smile and Manager Fu is sitting in a chair trying to smile but sneezing.

                                  IDORA  
Jonas, thanks again for another  
wonderful...

                                  MANAGER FU  
Aaaa...choo!

                                  IDORA  
Wonderful  
                                  (gag reflex)  
product.

                                  MANAGER FU  
Aaaa...

                                  JONAS  
My pleasure, Idora.

                                  MANAGER FU  
Choo!

This last sneeze is messy.

                                  IDORA  
Right. Well that's all for now  
Compulsives, remember that's item  
JGDDT10012 and you can order extra  
applicator wands, item JGDDR10012a.

Idora takes up most of the screen with Jonas and Manager Fu in the background and it's clear she's still struggling to keep the bile in check.

IDORA (cont.)

Well, let's change the mood and the subject a little, shall we? Let me ask you something, are you one of those people who think that learning a language is difficult? Well we've got our Verbal Voyager Dr. Phil Took coming up to share his patented language learning method that relies on listening only, no messy spelling, confusing verb conjugations or uptight rules. It's super easy, you can do it while exercising, cooking, doing the chores, driving and shopping. Learning without thinking, that's right, you just listen and learn, the Took way. Up next on YCSN, Your Compulsive Shopping Network. So don't go anywhere. Happy Shopping!

MANAGER FU

Aaa-choo!

BLACK OUT

CREDITS

SONG: PEPPY K-POP 강박 구매자 (The Obsessive Shopper)

SINGER

(shouted)

I'm compulsive!

(singing)

Sometimes I'm angry

Sometimes I'm sad

But I've got a secret

Something always makes me happy

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

Sometimes I feel sick

Sometimes I feel blue

But I've got a secret

I'm always happy shopping

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

(MORE)

SINGER (cont.)  
(shouted):  
신발, 옷옷, 목도리, 바지, 가방, 팔찌 (Fade)

COMPULSIVE SHOPPING NETWORK  
#103 "An Equitable Solution"

Written by  
Dayle C. Hall

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BLACK SCREEN

OPENING CREDITS

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(officious voice)

Compulsive buying disorder or CBD or oniomania, from the Greek onios "for sale" and manía or "insanity", is characterized by an obsession with shopping and buying behavior that often causes adverse consequences. YCSN is not responsible for any adverse consequences that may result from a pre-existing compulsive buying disorder. If you think you or someone you know is suffering from this condition please seek the help of a licensed professional. With proper treatment this condition can *sometimes* be successfully treated.

DESHWA'AN (V.O.)

Go, Shi, San, Ni, Ichi

We hear five electronic blips of a time code.

We see the back of a hand counting down from five but out of sync from the countdown and the blips. After one (middle finger) the finger points away from the camera.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

We see a large, fat man. His face is adorned with poorly applied makeup and s/he's wearing a large (though tight fitting) leopard print dress. This is THE ELECTRIC TRANS who might really think s/he's a beautiful woman. But s/he most definitely isn't. S/He is sitting on a stool surrounded by flat basketballs, fuzzy footballs and dolls of ambiguous gender.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in bottom right

INSERT

Text box appears on left side of screen: "KID'S JUNCTION  
WITH THE ELECTRIC TRANS! ITEM TET0023 SAM/SAMANTHA DOLLS  
\$39.99 AND TET00023A SAM/SAMANTHA PLAY SET \$22.75"

We hear the sound of a train whistle and a steam engine  
leaving the station.

THE ELECTRIC TRANS

(disappointed)

Ahh, darn. Well you all know what  
that sound means, so it looks like  
The Trans is leaving the station.  
It's been a lot of fun, but I'm  
afraid we're all out time. I'm sure  
you're as

(shimmy)

thrilled as I am with some of the  
fabulous toys we've been able to  
offer at equally fab prices. We  
still have a few more of the Sam/  
Samantha Dolls, item TET00023 along  
with the Sam/Samantha Safe Play set  
that features interchangeable  
clothing and hair, that would be item

(hand to earbud)

TET00023A. These anatomically  
incorrect dolls and their gender  
neutral clothes, like all the toys  
here on Kids' Junction are designed  
to discourage patriarchy and toxic  
competitive behavior. Parents love  
these dolls, because if you put them  
together on a play date, nothing  
happens!

(giggles)

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Assistant and Deshwa'an are working in the control room.

ASSISTANT

(mouth agape)

And all this time I thought it was  
something about electric trains.

DESHAW'AN

(resigned)

Yeah, well we all kinda thought that.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in bottom right.

INSERT

Text box appears on left side of screen: "KID'S JUNCTION  
WITH THE ELECTRIC TRANS! ITEM TET0023 SAM/SAMANTHA DOLLS  
\$39.99 AND TET00023A SAM/SAMANTHA PLAY SET \$22.75"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

The Electric Trans wraps up his segment.

THE ELECTRIC TRANS

We've got to skedaddle, but stay  
tuned for a YCSN favorite, Choice  
Cuts with Bruford Dolittle. We sure  
hope to see you all next week here on  
Kids' Junction hosted by yours truly,  
The Electric Trans.

(happy gesture)

Happy Shopping!

The Electric Trans mimics pulling on an imaginary train  
whistle

THE ELECTRIC TRANS

E.T. says Whoo Whoo!

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN

(into headset mic)

Run the Holiday Stress promo clip,  
Elim, Eha, Ekolu, Elua, Ho'okahi...

We hear music under the promo (Leroy Anderson's Sleigh Ride  
or equivalent).

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(silky voice)

Do you run out of ideas each holiday  
season? Do you always find yourself  
feeling pressured trying to find the  
perfect gift for that special  
someone?

The volume fades and continues under Deshwa'an and the Assistant's dialog.

ANNOUNCER (V.O. cont.)

Hate crowded malls? Christmas Carols causing anxiety or panic attacks? Candy Canes and Gingerbread give you extreme acid reflux? Well the holidays may seem far off, but soon you'll be drowning in eggnog and treacle and your blood pressure will be in overdrive as you struggle to meet the expectations of your loved ones. Do yourself a favor and finish your holiday shopping early, the YCSN way, leaving you to enjoy...

DESHWA'AN

(to Assistant)

Is Bruford in the building?

ASSISTANT

Should I check?

DESHWA'AN

Yeah, if you could, we need to track down that whack job.

ASSISTANT

No problem, I've dealt with him before. His bark is worse than his bite. His knives kinda give me the creeps, though.

The Assistant starts to leave.

DESHWA'AN

He's harmless enough, I think.

(grins)

I hope. Oh, and after tracking him down, could you fill in for me for the next segment? I've got to do an HR thing.

ASSISTANT

The sexual harassment course? I took it last week. It was pretty easy, common sense, really. Shouldn't take you more than twenty minutes.

DESHWA'AN

Cool. Hopefully I can get back before Bruford goes off. We need to ride his volume toward the end of his segment. He can get a little loud.

ASSISTANT

No problem, take your time, I can handle it.

DRONE POV

The Kid's Junction set is being rolled out and is replaced by a large table covered in various knives, behind it is a fake wall featuring a bunch of old stuff (license plates, rusted metal advertising signs, a stuffed and mounted large mouth bass and a deer head with antlers). Placed in front of the table is large rocking chair. The Electric Trans is talking to a tech and in the way of the knife wielding host for the next segment, BRUFORD DOLITTLE. Bruford is a good ol' boy, with maybe a couple of screws missing.

BRUFORD

Yo, Loco-motive, move your caboose, I got to get to work.

THE ELECTRIC TRANS

Pardon me?

BRUFORD

Look, dude...

THE ELECTRIC TRANS

Dude? You've got the wrong girl, cowboy.

Bruford takes a knife out his belt sheaf.

BRUFORD

What? Look here Mr. Electric Trainy...

THE ELECTRIC TRANS

Ms. Trans to you.

BRUFORD

Well you can fool some of the people some of the time with that act...

Bruford starts to wave the knife around.

THE ELECTRIC TRANS  
Could you please...

BRUFORD  
What? You want me to stop calling  
you a disgusting fat old man in a  
dress?

THE ELECTRIC TRANS  
(scared)  
Yeah, no, could you...be careful with  
that knife?

BRUFORD  
Huh?  
(Surprised)  
Oh this?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

Bruford looks at the knife which is inches away from The  
Electric Trans' neck.

BRUFORD  
I'm sorry, I get carried away  
sometimes.

Bruford removes the knife from The Electric Trans' neck, but  
still waives it around carelessly.

BRUFORD (cont.)  
I'm a little upset is all. Been a  
~~shitty~~ month is all. ~~Shitty~~ year,  
really. The Jaguars suck and the  
government wants to give my Mom  
vouchers. Vouchers! Hell, ain't no  
damn way vouchers are gonna cover the  
cost of her pills. Doc Schorro won't  
even accept them.  
(looks at The  
Electric Trans)  
I'm sorry sir, ma'am whatever.  
(looking a little  
scary)  
My therapist says I've got anger  
issues.

The Assistant arrives and tries to corral Bruford.

ASSISTANT  
Mr. Dolittle, please put that...thing  
away, we've got to get on the set.  
(to The Electric  
Trans)  
Good show ma'am.

THE ELECTRIC TRANS  
(relieved)  
Thank you. Whew.

The Electric Trans pulls a small electric fan out of his/her  
purse, turns it on and moves it around her face.

THE ELECTRIC TRANS (cont.)  
Thank you.

DRONE POV

The drone follows The Electric Trans as he/she walks down  
the hall. The drone stops outside of Portia's office.  
The door is open so it flies in and lands on a bookshelf.  
Frank and Portia enter the office and close the door.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

PORTIA  
I'd fire that monstrosity E.T. in a  
heartbeat if she didn't sell so damn  
well.

FRANK  
E.T.? Oh, The Electric Trans? Well,  
the pollsters and focus groups were  
wrong. It's a niche market, but I  
guess it's bigger niche than we  
thought.

PORTIA  
So fire the pollsters.

FRANK  
I guess.  
(looks at his watch)  
What time is this call?

PORTIA  
He said he'd call on the hour. We've  
got a few minutes.

FRANK

So what's the plan? And who is this guy?

PORTIA

Well, we don't have a plan yet. And it's not a rumor anymore. Animus Equity is looking to acquire YCSN, lock, stock and barrel. Brock Pounder will be calling, he's AEG's number two lawyer in charge of M&A's.

FRANK

OK, that's not much of a surprise. But why now?

PORTIA

Despite a few hiccups along the way, the last four quarters have been very profitable, so much so that some companies want in on the action. Others see it as a way to get their products to market much quicker. This direct marketing is very attractive. But I suspect that their goal is to takeover the more profitable aspects of the network and then leave us with a crippling debt. That's the way these things usually work.

FRANK

Where does Arnie fit into this?

PORTIA

Arnie? I don't have any evidence, but I think he started it. I think he's getting some kind of large finder's fee from Animus and he'll stash that in another off-shore account. If he ever thinks of dumping me, he'll want to show that he has little to no convertible assets. I mean for that not to happen, we have to prevent this takeover.

FRANK

(checks watch)

It's time. (He turns on one of the large screen TVs.

INT. BROCK POUNDER'S OFFICE - DAY

On the TV we see the face of BROCK POUNDER. Brock is Animus Equity's lawyer number two lawyer in charge of M&A's. Everything about him says money, from his haircut to his suit.

BROCK

Hi, is this working? Can you hear me? I mean can you see and hear me?

PORTIA (V.O.)

Loud and clear on both counts.

BROCK

Great, that's just...great. I can see and hear you too. Great. So, uh, let's get started. I'm Brock Pounder, counsel for Aminus Equity Global, or AEG. Sometimes I'll be referring to you, collectively or the network itself as the second party.

(winks)

Don't worry, it's just lawyer talk.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

PORTIA

On our end, well, you know me, Portia DeSoto, my husband Arnie won't be in on this call. To my left is Frank Trucchi, Frank is the Operations and Trade Partner Manager, and

(to Frank)

did you call Cheryl?

(to the screen)

Brock, hold on one second we're trying to get a hold of our Chief Counsel, Cheryl Wolfe.

FRANK

(to Portia)

Uhm, *actually*, Cheryl is on vacation this week, I think she's in Antigua?

(hastily)

She's supposed to conference in.

CHERYL WOLFE is the network's Chief Counsel. She is joining the conference via her cell phone.

There is an odd echo to her cell's quality and maybe there's the sound of the surf in the background.

                  CHERYL (O.S.)  
Hello? Hello? This is Cheryl, can  
you hear me?  
                  (off mic)  
No, Bruno, leave the sunscreen, ohhh!

                  PORTIA  
Well, we're all here, so why don't we  
get started?

                  CHERYL (O.S.)  
Hello?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Bruford Dolittle is sitting in his rocking chair and whittling on a piece of wood, the calm before the storm.

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right hand corner

INSERT

Text box on left side of screen: "CHOICE CUTS BLOWOUT ITEM  
CC54003 120 PIECES \$300.00"

                  BRUFORD  
O.M.G., Compulsives, it's a blowout,  
Item CC54003 and you get everything  
you see behind me. That's 120  
individual pieces for \$300.00. Did I  
say \$300.00, well let's slash that  
down to \$250.00.

INSERT

Text box on left side of screen: "CHOICE CUTS BLOWOUT ITEM  
CC54003 120 PIECES 249.95"

Bruford folds the knife and places it back in his pocket and puts the wood down on the floor.

He gets up off the chair with a grunt. Through the next bit, he walks around the table filled with cutlery, showing off each set of knives.

BRUFORD (cont.)

(Shaking his head)

Two hundred and Fifty Dollars!  
That's a little over two bucks a knife. And each one of these pieces is made from quality 020 stainless and is assembled in the USA or one of its protectorates. Let's take a look at this, you get the Chef Pressure Kitchen Cutlery Set which includes a paring knife, a flexible fillet blade that will take any critter down to its skeleton, kitchen scissors to cut those bones, a carver that's big enough to handle a 175 pound turkey, and you also get a sharpener and a stylish wood-like storage block.

Bruford moves to another portion of the table.

BRUFORD (cont.)

You want pocket folding blades? How about these four inch blades - you get 20 of them in both the Alaskan Wildlife and Camo finishes. The Wildlife blades feature a bone-like finish with 3D printed scrimshaw on the handle based on authentic antique Inuit designs. If you sold each one of these at \$5.00 each, you'd make back \$100.00 of your \$250.00 investment.

(hand to earbud)

What's that? You want to do that? Can we do that? Can we go lower? All right then, how about \$200.00 for this complete set, that's everything you see on this table behind me.

INSERT

Text box on left side of screen: "CHOICE CUTS BLOWOUT ITEM  
CC54003 120 PIECES 201.02"

BRUFORD (cont.)

Do you all like Stealth fixed blades?

(MORE)

BRUFORD (cont.)

You get ten of these beauties finished in a carbon fiber-like pattern. These are great knives for camping, you can cut through rope or Bambi's neck like you're cutting through warm gravy. The balance is great and the handle and guard are designed for you switch hitters, equally comfortable in either your right or your left hand.

(moving on)

We got your waterproof Marine blade, listen Compulsives, this is the ultimate fishing tool, it's got cork-lined bolsters so this thing actually floats. It's a perfect knife for gutting anything from a squid to a Coelacanth and take a look at this, it features this special patented hook removal tool. This little baby will save your fingers.

INT. YCSN OFFICE - DAY

Deshwa'an is sitting alone in a darkened office. It's fairly sparse, it could be an unused office or a small conference room. A large screen is being controlled by Deshwa'an's tablet.

We hear a cheap synthesizer arpeggio.

INSERT

TV screen graphic "L.A.M.E. CORPORATE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS: SEXUAL HARASSMENT...AND YOU!"

INT. YCSN OFFICE - DAY

The door opens and a shaft of light enters the room. Manager Fu pokes her head through the door.

MANAGER FU

Oh, I'm sorry, I thought it was empty.

DESHWA'AN

That's OK, come on in.

Manager Fu enters and shuts the door. Darkness returns to the room lit only by the large screen in front of them.

MANAGER FU

Are you taking the course?

DESHWA'AN

Yeah, I got it from both Portia and Ingrid. Jeeze, it ain't like, I mean it's not like I've done anything, right?

MANAGER FU

No, I think it's a compliance thing. They were on me as well. The lawyers want to cover their...well you know.

DESHWA'AN

Damn, this is going to make things a little awkward, right?

MANAGER FU

I don't know, it's supposed to make things clearer. How long have you been here?

DESHWA'AN

Couple of minutes, I just started it. Nothing but the opening graphic, but I could play it again.

MANAGER FU

Yeah, no, that's OK, I couldn't get the link to work on my phone, it said there was some kind of spyware or something. I tried a couple of other offices, but they all smelled like Durian.

(she shudders)

DESHWA'AN

No, I mean it's OK, have a seat. That is if you're not comfortable. I mean comfortable. I mean taking this course with me.

MANAGER FU

Why, do you have a problem? With me?

DESHWA'AN

(a little nervously)

Me? Not at all.

Deshwa'an mimics The Electric Trans train whistle gesture.

DESHWA'AN  
 Woo, Woo! Let's get onboard the  
 train, next stop, the land of Sexual  
 Harassment.

Deshwa'an presses play and the course restarts.

DRONE POV

The drone is still stationary in Portia's office. Portia  
 and Frank are still having the teleconference with Brock.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

PORTIA  
 (hissing to Frank, a  
 little pissed off)  
 I meant mute us, not him.

FRANK  
 I thought I did. Sorry, I'm not used  
 to this app.

CHERYL (O.S.)  
 (off mic)  
 What, Bruno? You and Jaco together?  
 At the same time? I don't think you  
 both will fit.  
 (on mic)  
 Brock? This is Cheryl, could you go  
 over the last part again about  
 severance packages?  
 (off mic)  
 Umm.

INT. BROCK POUNDER'S OFFICE - DAY

Brock Pounder is on the TV Screen as before.

BROCK  
 Well the numbers reflect an initial  
 30% reduction in workforce. Our  
 standard is 7% of their yearly base  
 times the number of years of  
 employment excluding all bonuses.  
 I've got a document that outlines it  
 all.

(MORE)

BROCK (cont.)  
 We'll also need a full list of equipment so we can avoid redundancies. But don't worry about that right now. Despite what you may have heard, we're not such a bad place to work. Sure there will be changes and while some might people find change uncomfortable...

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

PORTIA  
 Well Brock, I think, I mean you're talking as if it's a done deal.

INT. BROCK POUNDER'S OFFICE - DAY

BROCK  
 ...but I think you will all be pleasantly surprised.

The video feed briefly cuts out.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

PORTIA  
 Argh! Not again.  
 (to Frank)  
 I thought Maricio was supposed to check out the network.

INT. BROCK POUNDER'S OFFICE - DAY

The picture comes back on.

BROCK  
 ...how diverse and exciting AEG's workplace truly is. We've leveraged the strengths of over 25 separate companies to form a global...

Brock continues talking but there's no audio as the screen has MUTE showing on it.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

PORTIA  
(disgusted at  
Frank's ineptitude)  
Really? Really?

FRANK  
Are we almost done here?

INT. BROCK POUNDER'S OFFICE - DAY

The MUTE on the TV screen goes away.

BROCK  
What? I'm sorry. Sure, I mean I  
guess so. I'll email the three main  
documents and the backup, which is  
basically a generalized overview..

CHERYL (O.S.)  
(off mic)  
Yum.  
(distracted, on mic)  
Ah, if we're all done here, I've got  
to be go-(squeal)-ing.

We hear Cheryl's phone disconnecting

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

PORTIA  
Bye Cher...  
(to Frank)  
I guess she's back on vacation.

FRANK  
(sotto voce)  
Sounds like she never stopped.

PORTIA  
(to Brock)  
Brock, that will be great, yes, email  
the details. You have my contact  
info, right? I can forward any  
documents to Arnie, Frank and Cheryl.  
Thanks.

INT. BROCK POUNDER'S OFFICE - DAY

BROCK  
Thank...

The TV screen goes blank.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

FRANK  
What a load of Horseshit.

The TV screen comes back on.

INT. BROCK POUNDER'S OFFICE - DAY

BROCK  
We'll talk again soon.

Brock makes a move to turn off the conference on his end, but he clearly is as inept as Frank.

BROCK  
Hores~~hit~~, huh? We'll see about that,  
I'll make that bitch and her boytoy  
eat those...

Brock notices the video is still on and looks off to the side nervously.

BROCK  
You hear that Bob, yeah that's right  
I'm talking to you Bob!

The screen goes blank.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Bruford continues with his segment

BRUFORD

(behind table)

Y'all know about the Samurai, right. They used their Katanas for decapitating beaten opponents when taking heads on the battlefield, and of course, for seppuku.

Bruford takes the sword from it's display mount and starts cutting paper into shreds to show how sharp the blade is.

BRUFORD (cont.)

In this blowout deal, we're offering one very special Katana, it may or may not look like the one we're displaying, but we here at Choice Cuts guarantee, that's right, we guarantee that you will receive a Katana of similar or equal quality. This is included in item CC54003. Talk about value, we've sold similar Katanas in the past for more than the price of this entire set. Just take a look at this beauty, the saya is handcrafted wood with an enameled finish and set off with mother of pearl accents, and in this case the sageo is made of a fine silk-like thread. The Tsuba is done in gold plated high-grade steel - you can see that it's done in a dragon motif and the same silk-like material used in the sageo is used for the Tsuka-ito.

Bruford replaces the Katana back in its saya and puts it back on the stand.

BRUFORD (cont.)

A beautiful knife to display in the living room, "Man Cave" or in your office.

Bruford moves to the front of the table.

BRUFORD (cont.)  
 Ah, now to me this is like the  
 Sistine Chapel of knives. This is my  
 favorite, Compulsives, look at this  
 one, "The Eliminator"!

Bruford holds a large tactical with an admiring gaze.

BRUFORD (cont.)  
 For me personally, The Eliminator is  
 the one knife I'd want to have with  
 me if I was stranded in the Brazilian  
 Rain Forest or West 141st and  
 Frederick Douglas.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

ASSISTANT  
 (to no one)  
 That's awfully specific...

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Bruford continues with his segment

BRUFORD  
 Look at the Skull Crusher at the butt  
 of the handle. You've got a serrated  
 section and a razor sharp point. The  
 Eliminator comes with a heavy duty  
 leatherette sheaf that fixes onto  
 your belt and can be worn on your  
 back for both security and easy  
 access. No one will see it coming.  
 This is worth anywhere from \$40.00 to  
 \$80.00 retail, easy.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

ASSISTANT  
 (into mic)  
 Cue promo HELM 13.  
 (to herself)  
 Wow, this thing is in pretty high  
 rotation. Three, two, one...

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Several businessmen and women are riding in the elevator. Suddenly the elevator stops, the lights go out and the shot freezes on a woman silently screaming.

The shot ends in a cheap and cheesy video effect of the woman's face spiraling into something that looks like a kaleidoscope.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
 Do you ever have to take long  
 elevator rides? Do you get more than  
 a little claustrophobic? Are you  
 scared of being trapped inside this  
 stinky cube of death? It happens  
 more often than you might think.

ELEVATOR SHOT FADES

INT. BUSINESS LOBBY - DAY

The announcer is walking through the lobby as he talks.

ANNOUNCER  
 C.A.S.E., the Canadian Authority for  
 Safety in Elevators reports hundreds  
 of examples every year of ordinary  
 people like you getting stuck in  
 elevators. Well, we at HELM are  
 proud to introduce the HELM AB1, your  
 total Elevator Safety Kit.  
 You won't have to worry anymore when  
 you hear the elevator groan to a stop  
 as the lights go off in that tiny  
 space...

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

PORTIA

Do me a favor and turn that thing off - no not with the app, I mean unplug it or hit the kill button. Jesus, if you weren't so good looking...

FRANK

(apologizing)

I told you, I'm not used to this app. The one on my phone is way more intuitive, it's almost all Emojis. This one had words and they're all close together. Besides, my hands are too big...

Portia rolls her eyes.

FRANK

OK, let me check on the network.

Frank leaves his chair and starts to go out the door. He stops and looks back at Portia.

FRANK

Open or Closed?

PORTIA

What?

FRANK

The door. Do you want it open or...

PORTIA

Leave the damn door open.

INT. GENERIC OFFICE SPACE - DAY

The Announcer (Fred with glasses and mustache) is standing in front of several office cubicles.

ANNOUNCER

Sexual Harassment...and You! Sexual Harassment is a serious problem in today's modern workplace. And it's not just an ethical problem.

The Announcer continues under Manager Fu and Deshwa'an.

INT. YCSN OFFICE - DAY

Deshwa'an and Manager Fu are taking the Sexual Harassment Course.

MANAGER FU  
Isn't that Fred?

DESHWA'AN  
Who?

MANAGER FU  
You know, Fred. Ollie Rabinovitch,  
the scientist we used on Jonas'  
D.D.T. launch.

DESHWA'AN  
I don't know, I don't recognize him  
with the glasses and the mustache,  
but you might be right. It does look  
a little like him.

INT. GENERIC OFFICE SPACE - DAY

The Announcer (Fred with glasses and mustache) is standing  
in front of several office cubicles.

ANNOUNCER  
It's a multi million dollar problem  
for corporate America. Think you  
know all about Sexual Harassment?  
Well then, let's start with a little  
quiz. If you are accused of sexual  
harassment, the consequences could  
be:

INSERT

The answers appear on the screen.

A: THE COMPANY COULD POTENTIALLY HAVE TO PAY OUT THOUSANDS  
TO MILLIONS OF DOLLARS  
B: LAWYERS WILL GET RICH  
C: BOTH THE COMPANY AND YOU COULD BE SUED AND YOU COULD LOSE  
YOUR JOB  
D: ALL OF THE ABOVE

INT. YCSN OFFICE - DAY

MANAGER FU  
(after a beat)  
Is there a problem with the network?

DESHWA'AN  
(thinking)  
I think it's waiting for us to pick  
an answer?

MANAGER FU  
So pick one.

DESHWA'AN  
I don't know. B is a given. C or D  
would be my guess, I mean answer.  
Though the lawyer thing seems like a  
trick question.

MANAGER FU  
I'm going to say D

DESHWA'AN  
D it is.

Deshwa'an selects D on the tablet.

We hear a synthesized fanfare: "TA DA"

INT. OFFICE - DAY

The Announcer is still standing in front of the cubicles.

ANNOUNCER  
You chose D, that's correct. Sexual  
Harassment opens both the company and  
you to exposure of possible  
litigation. The only winners will be  
money grubbing lawyers.  
(he smiles smugly)

MANAGER FU (V.O.)  
Seems a little harsh.

DESHWA'AN (V.O.)  
Not harsh enough by half if you ask  
me.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Bruford continues his segment.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in bottom right.

INSERT

Text box on left side of screen: "CHOICE CUTS BLOWOUT ITEM  
CC54003 120 PIECES 201.02"

Bruford is getting more wound up.

BRUFORD

And not only do we have the Zombie Killer Tactical Blade in Biohazard Green, and you get five of them, but for the ladies, we've got the Ms. Zombie Killer, with a slightly smaller handle and blade and it's in Biohazard Pink. This is new and exclusive to Choice Cuts. You get five of them as well. You could sell each one of these for \$15.00 - that's a \$150.00 value.

And let's face it, we know that it's only a matter of time before the Zombies arrive, the CDC has been working with dead bodies and stem cells for too long for this not to happen.

And what about that innocent looking little orange dot on your Driver's License? Are we talking organ donation or organ harvesting? Like the man sang, "one man's ceiling is another man's floor", it's all a matter of perspective. The next few years will offer a lot of challenges, and zombies have to rank as one of the biggest. Why do you think they are making healthcare impossible to get? Why do you think they are replacing Medicare with vouchers, huh? The government doesn't want you to get better, they want you to get sick and die!

(MORE)

BRUFORD (cont.)

You know, before the show I was having this conversation with my good friend The Electric Trainy and we agreed that this organ harvesting nightmare has already started.

Bruford's face should fill the screen.

BRUFORD (cont.)

Why Zombies? Well hell, they don't need to work for the minimum wage. They don't need fancy lodging or nice cars. You can just make a few minor security improvements on something like the old Macy's on Center Street and stuff 'em all in there.

(pauses)

That's right, stuff 'em on in.

(yelling)

But they're Zombies! You've seen the movies and the TV shows. They can break out and when they do, they're gonna want to feast on nice ripe brains!

Bruford is calmer but has a wicked gleam in his eye.

BRUFORD (cont.)

Look here, when the government takes away your guns, and 2nd Amendment or not, NRA or not, that's gonna happen as sure as the sun is gonna rise over Hokkaido tomorrow, which is already like yesterday, right? What are you going to have left to protect you and your loved ones? Did I hear knives, did somebody say knives? Damn straight. So just look at this blowout we're offering. I tell you what, they don't want me to do this, but when did I listen to them, huh? One hundred and fifty dollars gets you everything you see on this table including a Katana. One hundred and fifty dollars, you can hoard it all for the upcoming Zombocalypse or sell it at retail for three to five times as much. The choice is yours.

INSERT

Box on left side of screen: "ZOMBOCALYPSE BLOWOUT CC54003  
\$152.35 PLUS \$20.00 SHIPPING AND HANDLING"

BRUFORD (cont.)

I don't have to tell you that at  
these prices, this deal won't last,  
so I'm sorry to say we have to limit  
this to three per customer.

Bruford calmly sits down and starts whittling again, but  
this time it's not a piece of wood but a Sam/Samantha doll.

BRUFORD (cont.)

Stay tuned, Compulsives, we'll have  
more after this break.

INT. GENERIC OFFICE - DAY

The Announcer is still standing in front of the office  
cubicles.

ANNOUNCER

Now let's look at Bob. Bob works for  
ABC Corporation.

INT. YCSN OFFICE - DAY

DESHWA'AN

Bob from ABC Corp? Lots of  
imagination from the writers.

MANAGER FU

Hey, it's an industrial. Shh.

INT. GENERIC OFFICE - DAY

BOB FROM ABC CORP is talking to some of his cubicle buddies.

BOB FROM ABC CORP

Man, you wouldn't believe how fine  
this chick was. I mean she was  
really stacked and had these eyes  
that said "Do me" you know? So we  
locked ourselves in the server room  
and the A.C. made those headlights  
flip onto high-beam, hear what I'm  
sayin'? So we started to...

Bob and his group are joined by SUSAN FROM ABC CORP

SUSAN FROM ABC CORP  
(stiff Actress)  
Excuse me, Bob, here's the report you requested.

BOB FROM ABC CORP  
Thanks, Susan.  
(turns and continues)  
So then she got on her knees...

Susan's face should fill the screen.

Of course it's the woman from the HELM AB1 Promo, darn near the same shot and it spirals into the same cheap kaleidoscopic effect.

INT. GENERIC OFFICE - DAY

The announcer is standing in front of the office cubicles.

ANNOUNCER  
Did Bob commit just sexual harassment? After all, he was talking directly to his male co-workers and they didn't seem offended. Susan just happened to overhear a conversation that wasn't meant for her, right?

INSERT

The answers appear on the screen.

A: SUSAN WASN'T PART OF THE CONVERSATION SO IT WAS OK  
B: BOB'S STORY MADE SUSAN UNCOMFORTABLE. BOB IS GUILTY OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT.

INT. YCSN OFFICE - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
Too easy. Got to be B.

MANAGER FU  
Yep.  
(to Deshwa'an)  
You get that right?

DESHWA'AN  
Me? Yeah, of course.

Deshwa'an enters B into the tablet.

We hear the same cheap synthesizer fanfare: "TA DA"

INT. GENERIC OFFICE - DAY

The Announcer is getting water from the office water cooler.

ANNOUNCER

That's right! Even though Bob was not speaking directly to Susan, she could overhear his conversation and it clearly made her uncomfortable. Bob needs to learn that this kind of behavior isn't OK. When faced with this behavior, Susan should:

INSERT

We see the answers onscreen.

A: GO BACK TO HER WORK STATION. THIS CONVERSATION WASN'T MEANT FOR HER.

B: CONFRONT BOB AND TELL HIM THAT HIS BEHAVIOR IS UNACCEPTABLE.

C: JOIN IN AND REGALE THEM ALL ABOUT WHEN SHE "HAD" SAM IN THE SERVER ROOM.

D: IMMEDIATELY REPORT THE BEHAVIOR TO HER DIRECT SUPERVISOR.

INT. YCSN OFFICE - DAY

Deshwa'an and Manager Fu continue to take the course in the darkened room.

DESHWA'AN

Tough one here. I mean, I know I'm not a woman and all, but if it was me, I would let Bob have it.

MANAGER FU

No, I get that, but this all about CYA, so I'm thinking D.

DESHWA'AN

Yeah, I guess you're right. Am I sexually harassing you if I say that I honestly want to hear the story of Sam and Susan.

MANAGER FU  
(smiling despite  
herself)  
Borderline, Deshwa'an. I might need  
to talk to my immediate supervisor.

INT. GENERIC OFFICE DAY

The announcer is back in front of the cubicles.

ANNOUNCER  
Let's look at Bob again. This time,  
he's complaining to his supervisor  
Luann.

INT. LUANN FROM ABC CORP'S OFFICE - DAY

LUANN hands Bob a large manila file folder.

LUANN FROM ABC CORP  
Sorry, Bob, but Susan had to take a  
week off. You'll have to fill in for  
her and finish the monthly Exception  
Report.

BOB FROM ABC CORP  
What? I have to work the Thompson  
account and you're making me finish  
Susan's monthly report? Well why  
don't you just give me a jar a  
Vaseline as well!

INT. GENERIC OFFICE DAY

The announcer is standing in front of the cubicles.

ANNOUNCER  
Bob's response to his supervisor was:

INSERT

We see the answers onscreen.

A: OK. THE THOMPSON ACCOUNT IS A LOT OF WORK AND HAVING TO  
DO THE EXCEPTION REPORT IS ASKING TOO MUCH.  
B: OK. WORKING BOTH THE THOMPSON ACCOUNT AND THE EXCEPTION  
REPORT WILL LIKELY CAUSE HIM A GREAT DEAL OF PAIN. VASELINE  
IS OFTEN USED TO RELIEVE PAIN.  
C: OK. SUSAN TAKES TOO MUCH TIME OFF.

D: NOT OK. WHILE THE USE OF VASELINE IN A SEXUAL MANNER IS TO BE INFERRED AND WAS NOT DIRECTLY IMPLIED, IT STILL CAN BE CONSIDERED SEXUAL HARASSMENT.

INT. YCSN OFFICE - DAY

DESHAW'AN

I say C. Susan is a lazy b. I'm kidding, it's D.

MANAGER FU

Watch it.

DESHWA'AN

Sure but where's the fun in all that. Before you know it, we're all gonna be walking around like The Electric Trans' Sam/Samantha dolls. There's is a difference you know.

MANAGER FU

Yes, but we're at work.

DESHWA'AN

I get it, I'm just sayin'.

Deshwa'an enters D on his tablet

We hear the cheap synthesizer fanfare: "TA DA".

INT. GENERIC OFFICE - DAY

The Announcer is in front of the cubicles.

ANNOUNCER

Correct. This is a bit tricky, because the use of petroleum jelly doesn't implicitly imply a sexual connotation. But with Bob's history and the way it was said makes this seemingly ambiguous comment more charged. Even though we are only inferring it, it still qualifies as sexual harassment. This was based on an actual case...

INT. YCSN OFFICE - DAY

We hear a knock on the door.

DESHWA'AN  
Yeah, come on in.

The door opens, causing a sliver of light to enter the darkened room as before. Enter MARICIO the maintenance man, a handsome, swarthy type from south of the border.

MARICIO  
Hola.

SUBTITLE: Hello.

DESHWA'AN  
Oh, here let me pause this  
(announcer drones  
on)  
Hey Maricio. Do you have to take  
this course too?

MARICIO  
¿Qué?

SUBTITLE: What?

MANAGER FU  
Of course he does, Deshwa'an.  
Everybody has to take it.

DESHWA'AN  
Really?

Deshwa'an speaks a little slower and louder, like speaking to a child.

DESHWA'AN  
Marcio, are you here to take the,  
uh...Curso de acoso sexual?

SUBTITLE: Course on sexual harassment?

MARICIO  
Estoy aquí para comprobar la conexión  
de red.

SUBTITLE: I'm here to check the network connection.

MANAGER FU  
What did he say?

DESHWA'AN  
I don't know, I'm using a translating  
app, but it didn't pick that up.

Deshwa'an turns to Maricio and smiles a broad, and somewhat  
stupid smile.

DESHWA'AN (cont.)  
¿No te unirás a nosotros?

SUBTITLE: Will not you join us?

MARICIO  
(shrugs)  
Supongo que sí.

SUBTITLE: I guess.

Maricio sits and takes out his lunch and starts eating

MANAGER FU  
(surprised)  
That smells pretty good.  
(focusing)  
Where were we?

DESHWA'AN  
Sure, but it ain't no cheese steak.

MANAGER FU  
What?

DESHWA'AN  
I paused it, but we might have missed  
something.

Deshwa'an presses play on his tablet and the video  
continues.

INT. GENERIC OFFICE - DAY

Bob from ABC Corp accidentally brushes into Susan from ABC  
Corp's breast.

BOB FROM ABC CORP  
Oops.  
(embarrassed)  
I'm sorry, but you know what? That  
felt pretty good.

INT. GENERIC OFFICE - DAY

The Announcer is standing in front of office cubicles.

ANNOUNCER  
What do you think? Sexual Harassment  
or not?

INT. YCSN OFFICE - DAY

Both Deshwa'an and Manager Fu look at Maricio. Maricio responds after a pause.

MARICIO  
No es bueno.

SUBTITLE: Not good.

DESHWA'AN  
(to Manager Fu)  
By George, I think he's got it.  
(to Maricio)  
Dude, I think you're getting the hang  
of this.

INT. WOMAN'S RESTROOM - DAY

Idora is washing up and cleaning a spot on her blouse. She gets her phone and looks at the screen.

INSERT

We see Idora's phone and the name Doctor Rose and her phone number (Message).

INT. WOMAN'S RESTROOM - DAY

Idora looks into the mirror and shakes her head

IDORA  
Nooooo.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

Portia is sitting alone in her office when her phone rings.

PORTIA  
 Argh! She picks up her phone.

INSERT

On Portia's phone we see the contact is Arnie.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

PORTIA  
 Hello, Arnie, we just got off the  
 phone with Brock Pounder from AEG.  
 What can you...

Portia is distracted for a moment as the drone takes off and  
 flies through the open door.

PORTIA (cont.)  
 Damn nuisance....What? Oh, not you  
 Arnie, it's just...never mind.  
 Anyway, this Brock character is  
 talking like this M&A is a done deal.  
 What? No, we need to...sure I can  
 hold.  
                   ( she covers the  
                   phone)  
 Damn...

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Bruford is winding up his rant in front of the table.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in the lower right

INSERT

Box on left side of screen: "CHOICE CUTS END OF THE WORLD  
 BLOWOUT CC54003 \$137.22 PLUS \$20.00 SHIPPING AND HANDLING"

BRUFORD  
 ...and that meteor is heading right  
 for us! What's gonna happen when it  
 hits?

(MORE)

BRUFORD (cont.)

I mean aside from mass extinction such as this planet hasn't seen since the biblical time of the dinosaurs. And where is the funding for the anti meteor missile shield they promised us? I'll tell you what's gonna happen when that meteor hits, it's gonna be every man for himself. And what happens when the bullets run out?

What happens when Kim Jung Un's bootlickers are trying to pick up the pieces from Blaine to Calexico and your fancy hybrids and Teslas will be nothing more than stationary mobile homes used for rendezvous for drug deals and cheap sex while you're eating a diet of dogs, rats and lizards cooked on sidewalks so hot that they catch fire and melt. And I can see you on your knees offering cheap prayers to some tone deaf deity who doesn't give a crap about your sorry life. Meanwhile, your family, or what remains of it, is looking at you like you're the world's biggest loser, well at that point I think you will have wished that you hadn't passed up the chance to order the Choice Cut Blowout especially when it was being offered at, get this, ninety nine, ninety nine, with the shipping and handling waived! Can that be right, no shipping and handling charges? You heard right. And you'd have to be psychotic leech to pass up a deal like this.

INSERT

Box on left side of screen: "CHOICE CUTS END OF THE WORLD BLOWOUT CC54003 \$100.00 PLUS \$20.00 SHIPPING AND HANDLING"

BRUFORD (cont.)

That's what I'm talking about! That's the real deal, folks, it ain't gonna get any cheaper than that. 120 pieces for under a hundred bucks, that's just, whew, I got to sit myself down. That's some fine stuff, you hear?

He goes to the rocking chair, sits down and starts whittling on a large turnip, suddenly the picture of calm.

BRUFORD (cont.)  
Stay tuned, Compulsives, because the  
deals won't stop just because I have.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

ASSISTANT  
(on mic)  
Cue Helm Promo.  
(off mic)  
Not this again?

DRONE POV

Together, Deshwa'an and Manager Fu are walking onto the set. Idora is rushing behind them frantically buttoning up her blouse (it's a different one than what she was wearing in the bathroom). A makeup person adds a few finishing touches to Idora's face.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
Well I gotta get back and take care  
of the next segment.

MANAGER FU  
Sure, yeah, of course.

DESHWA'AN  
And Manager Fu, I actually had a,  
(embarrassed)  
well, what I'm trying to say is that  
taking the course with you didn't  
suck. I can say that, right?

MANAGER FU  
On a scale of 1 to 4, that's maybe a  
one. It's OK, it didn't suck for me  
either.  
(both coy and shy)  
Maybe we could get together sometime  
when we didn't have to watch some  
dull industrial?

DESHWA'AN  
(grins)  
Sure, I'd like that.

The two begin walking toward the control room until Deshwa'an trips and almost falls.

MANAGER FU  
(distressed)  
What was that? Are you OK?

DESHWA'AN  
Sure, I'm fine. I think I tripped on one of Bruford's whittling sticks.

Deshwa'an looks down at the three objects on the floor.

DESHW'AN  
Oh my God.

MANAGER FU  
What is it?

DESHWA'AN  
I don't think I can tell you.

MANAGER FU  
What? What do you mean?

DESHWA'AN  
I mean it might not be appropriate for me to tell you right now. Look, I gotta run, see you around?

MANAGER FU  
(smiling, confused)  
Sure, see you around, homeboy.

DESHWA'AN  
(turning)  
What?

MANAGER FU  
But I have to tell you, I'm more of a Flyers fan than a Phillies fan.

Manager Fu smiles, turns around and looks down at the ground and lets out a shriek as Deshwa'an speeds up his pace toward the control room.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Deshwa'an enters and sits at his workstation. He looks over to the Assistant.

DESHWA'AN

Look, I mean I just took this course and I'm not really supposed to bring things like this up, but...well there's no comfortable way of asking...

ASSISTANT

You mean the phalluses?

DESHWA'AN

You saw them too?

ASSISTANT

Sure, I've seen them after every segment of Choice Cuts. What do you think he's whittling while he's sitting in that rocker? It's the same every show, he makes three or four each time. Threw me off the first time I had to help strike his set.

(she grins)

Pretty weird, huh?

INT. BUSINESS ELEVATOR - NIGHT

Two women enter the elevator. They both are wearing a stylish shoulder bag with the letters HELM prominently displayed. They look at one another and give each other a subtle nod and a knowing smile. The elevator door closes.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

HELM, our name spells safety.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN

(to Assistant)

That bugs me. I don't think that spells safety in any language.

(checks the time)

Damn, gotta roll.

(into mic)

Cue Camera two, Fünf, Vier, Drie, Zwei, Eins.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora gives a promo for the upcoming segment.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in bottom right

IDORA

(smiling)

Welcome back, Compulsives. Are you ready for some stylish cold weather fashions? Well we've got your favorite style mavens, D'Orca Nevada and Brant Large (pronounced Larjay) ready to present a whole host of comfortable, sensible and, dare I say it, hip clothes for the normal sized woman. The weather may be delightful right now, but you know it's going to get frightful soon. You'll want to be both chic and prepared. "Finally, In My Size!" featuring D'Orca Nevada and Brant Largey coming up next on Your Compulsive Shopping Network. Happy Shopping!

CREDITS

SONG: PEPPY K-POP 강박 구매자 (The Obsessive Shopper)

SINGER

(shouted)

I'm compulsive!

(singing)

Sometimes I'm angry

Sometimes I'm sad

But I've got a secret

Something always makes me happy

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

Sometimes I feel sick

Sometimes I feel blue

But I've got a secret

(MORE)

SINGER (cont.)  
I'm always happy shopping

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요  
나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요  
쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요  
나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

(shouted)  
신발, 옷옷, 목도리, 바지, 가방, 팔찌 (Fade)

COMPULSIVE SHOPPING NETWORK  
#104 "Bad Dog!"

Written by  
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BLACK SCREEN

OPENING CREDITS

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(officious voice)

Compulsive buying disorder or CBD or oniomania, from the Greek onios "for sale" and manía or "insanity", is characterized by an obsession with shopping and buying behavior that often causes adverse consequences. YCSN is not responsible for any adverse consequences that may result from a pre-existing compulsive buying disorder. If you think you or someone you know is suffering from this condition please seek the help of a licensed professional. With proper treatment this condition can *sometimes* be successfully treated.

DESHWA'AN (V.O.)

Cinq, Quatre, Trois, Deux, Un,

We hear five electronic blips of a time code.

We see the back of a hand counting down from five but out of sync from the countdown and the blips. After one (middle finger) the finger points away from the camera.

DRONE POV

SUZE is at the reception desk. As usual, she has stock quotes on her laptop screen. There's also a manila folder on her desk. Manager Fu walks in from the outside and starts to pass before Suze desperately flags her down.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

SUZE

Manager Fu, Manager Fu, we need to talk. There's some problem on the set.

MANAGER FU

What's the issue?

SUZE

I don't know the details, I just know they had me call around looking for a replacement.

MANAGER FU

Replacement for what?  
(shakes her head)  
For who?

SUZE

I don't know, they just said that there's a problem with the woman who sells ~~Tupperware~~.

We hear the same beep that is used for profanity and any word that is in a Strikethrough font. This happens every time one of the characters mentions the name "Tupperware".

MANAGER FU

~~Tupperware~~?

SUZE

I'm just repeating what somebody said. But it sounds like we're scrambling a bit?

MANAGER FU

Have you got a hold of anybody yet?

SUZE

You mean like a replacement? Not yet. They gave me a list, I've called the ladder guy, the rotary blade guy, the cute sickly-sweet Aussie blender couple, the gemstone lady, the Helm group, the has-been country star who's hawking his special bass guitar method...  
(running out of gas)  
and I haven't been able to track down anybody.

MANAGER FU

OK. Do me a favor and text me when you find somebody. I've got to...I don't know, I've got to talk to Frank and Portia.

SUZE  
OK. Oh hey, I almost forgot, will you  
take this?

Suze hands her the manila folder.

MANAGER FU  
What's this?

SUZE  
It's a birthday card for Idora, I got  
it from Ingrid in HR. We're all  
supposed to write something on it. I  
tried, but I couldn't think of  
anything, I was going to write "Happy  
Birthday", but that seemed kind of  
lame, especially 'cause, Hello,  
that's what the card says.

INSERT

We see Suze's hands opening the card and we see the generic  
"Happy Birthday" printed on the inside.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

SUZE  
'Sides which, I mean, I don't know  
her very well.

Manager Fu takes the envelope and sighs.

MANAGER FU  
OK.

Manager Fu starts walking away, but turns and shouts back at  
Suze.

MANAGER FU  
As soon as you hear anything...

She gives the call me gesture and heads back down the hall.

DRONE POV

The drone follows Manager Fu as she walks up to Portia's office and knocks. There's no response, so she just enters. Portia and Frank are breaking up from an embrace. Manager Fu leaves the door open so the drone follows and parks itself on the bookshelf.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

MANAGER FU

Did you hear?

FRANK

Hear what?

MANAGER FU

We've had a couple of cancellations, I mean our back ups for the back ups have canceled. In

(she takes a quick  
look at her phone)

about 20 minutes we're going to have dead air.

(uncomfortable)

Well, we won't technically have dead air, we'll be running an older...

(embarrassed)

But you know all that.

FRANK

What's running right now?

MANAGER FU

The Lost Vault, it's a collectible coin show run by the twins Marvin and Patsy. I talked with them before their show and they are in a hurry to get out of here, they have some personal appearance and they won't just lose money, they could get sued if they don't show up.

PORTIA

What? Who canceled?

MANAGER FU

The ~~Tupperware~~ saleswoman.

PORTIA

Who?

FRANK

(glances at tablet)

That would be Lizzie, uh, Lizbeth Farnoux, she has a show called "Stow It!", it's like a refrigerator and cupboard organizing system.

PORTIA

You mean like ~~Tupperware~~?

FRANK

Sure, I mean, it's *like* ~~Tupperware~~... but it's not. *That* wouldn't be legal.

(thinks)

I thought I saw her a little earlier.

MANAGER FU

OK, I'll try to figure out what's going on. Suze is working the list to drum up a replacement, but she hasn't had very good luck.

Manager Fu starts to leave and remembers the folder.

MANAGER FU

Oh, and when you get a chance, can you sign this and pass it along?

PORTIA

Why, what is it?

MANAGER FU

It's a birthday card for Idora.

INSERT

We see Manager Fu placing the card on Portia's desk.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE

PORTIA

It's Idora's birthday?

Manager Fu shrugs her shoulders and walks out. The drone starts after her then heads back toward the bookshelf almost as if it can't make up its mind. It finally decides to chase after and eventually overtake Manager Fu as she walks toward the studio.

DRONE POV

The studio appears in chaos as the the "Stow It!" set is being stricken. Idora, Deshwa'an and LIZBETH FARNOUX are in a heated discussion. Lizbeth is the mousy, would be entrepreneur of the Tupperware-like product.

LIZBETH  
(almost in tears)  
I'm no lawyer, it just says I can't do the show. I'd like to do the show, I mean it's in my best interest to do the show. I don't make anything if I don't do the show.

IDORA  
Let's see this court order.  
(to Deshwa'an)  
Is Cheryl back yet?

DESHWA'AN  
(too innocently)  
You mean our lawyer?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

Manager Fu joins Idora, Lizbeth, and Deshwa'an

IDORA  
Yeah, maybe we can have her...

LIZBETH  
No, you don't understand. I can't do the show.

Lizbeth takes a messy sheaf of papers out of her purse.

LIZBETH (cont.)  
I can't make out everything here, but what I can understand is that it says I'm liable, it says I'll have to pay damages. They can arrest me.

DESHWA'AN  
Really? I thought you worked out a deal with the Tupperware Company. I thought this was somehow different from Tupperware?

MANAGER FU

(joining in)

Apparently not different enough. Oh,  
hi Idora.

(to Deshwa'an)

Hey.

DESHWA'AN

(awkward pause)

Hey.

LIZBETH

(getting paranoid)

I should have known better. I saw  
them parked outside my apartment.  
Big black SUVs. What am I supposed  
to do? I can't go back there.

IDORA

Calm down Lizbeth.

LIZBETH

You're telling me to calm down?  
Sure, easy for you to say. Do you  
have people following you every  
minute of every day? Do you have  
people, I mean it looks innocent  
enough, sure, but do you have them  
follow you into the restroom at  
airports? Do you have them hanging  
outside your apartment, seemingly  
just talking about nothing, but  
really filing reports on your  
movements for the day? Calm down?  
You calm down! I can't take any more  
of this, living my life in a legal  
fishbowl. I'm done, I'm out of here,  
I'm going into hiding until I can  
reach my lawyer.

Lizbeth starts to leave, but turns around.

LIZBETH (cont.)

Why is it always the little guy?  
These big corporations continue to  
stand in the way of the entrepreneur.  
How can we succeed, how can there be  
a middle class? I don't know what's  
worse, the corporations or the  
government. All I know is that they  
both don't want me to succeed.

(MORE)

LIZBETH (cont.)

They want me to fail. I mean I had an idea for a refrigerator and pantry storage product, and sure it was like ~~Tupperware~~, but there were some substantial differences. Enough to have the patent pending. A friend of mine who went to law school said that they don't pend every patent and that this meant that my case had to have some merit. I was impressed and, truthfully looking back at it, more than a little drunk, 'cause in retrospect, I think he just wanted to get into my pants.

(thinking)

Or maybe I wanted to get into his. Anyway, I got a loan, got a manufacturing deal and figured I'd do a direct sell, and while I was waiting to hear back from the "Piranha Pond" people, I got a call saying that your network was interested. I did a couple of shows and we had more orders than we could fulfill. I was thinking that I was about to get ahead of the game, but instead, they sicced their lawyers and now what am I supposed to do? No really. Anybody got any ideas? 'Cause I sure don't. I've worked my tail off to make a living and this is how it ends? Sweet Jesus. It just goes to prove that you can't fight big ~~Tupperware~~.

(looks around,  
paranoid)

If anybody asks, I was never here today, right? Right?

IDORA, MANAGER FU, DESHW'AN  
Sure, of course, yeah.

Lizbeth goes running off.

DESHWA'AN

Anybody got any ideas?

We hear Manager Fu's Text Tone Ring

MANAGER FU

Wait a sec...this is from her, Suze I mean. She says...

INSERT

Manager Fu's phone: "Gt Bdy, XPCT (arrow pointing up) 10m"

INT. STUDIO - DAY

MANAGER FU

I think it says that she got somebody  
to do the show, they'll be here in  
about ten minutes.

IDORA

Who'd she get?

MANAGER FU

(staring into phone)  
I'm not sure.

DESHWA'AN

Do you need glasses?

MANAGER FU

(lying and annoyed)  
No, I can read it just fine.

We hear Manager Fu's Text Tone Ring

MANAGER FU

Oh, OK. It says "HH - BDG" Do  
people have a problem with vowels  
these days?

(confused)

That doesn't mean anything to me. Am  
I missing something?

DESHWA'AN

Not to me. Idora?

IDORA

(after a beat and  
under her breath)  
Crapples!

MANAGER FU

What? What is it?

IDORA

(looks at Deshwa'an)  
BDG. Bad Dog. The dog woman. H. H.

DESHWA'AN  
Oh Christ, her?

Idora shakes her head

DESHWA'AN (cont.)  
(to Manager Fu)  
It's this woman, Hildy something.

IDORA  
Hilda...Himmler, no that's not right.  
Heitler, Hilde Heitler.

DESHWA'AN  
Hilda Heitler, yeah! She's a dog  
trainer.

IDORA  
Well, she has a dog training system.

DESHWA'AN  
Sure, everybody's got a system.  
(to Manager Fu)  
She's this crazy Kraut, we call her  
the Canine Corrector.

IDORA  
The German Shepherdess.

DESHWA'AN  
The Doggie Dominatrix.

MANAGER FU  
OK, I get the idea. Do we have a set  
for her?

DESHWA'AN  
I think she just uses a generic set.

MANAGER FU  
So this means she'll bring her dogs?

DESHWA'AN  
Sure, I guess. Why, you don't like  
dogs?

MANAGER FU  
(lying)  
Me? I love dogs!

DESHWA'AN  
Really?

INSERT

We see Manger Fu's facebook page and zoom in on: "I HATE DOGS AND THE GROSS PEOPLE WHO BRING THEM INTO COFFEE SHOPS, GROCERY STORES AND RESTAURANTS..."

INT. STUDIO - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
 (smiles, because  
 he's seen her  
 facebook page)  
 Never cared much for 'em myself.  
 (suddenly practical)  
 Especially in the studio, they make a  
 mess and they chew wires.  
 (shudders)  
 If nobody's got anything else, I've  
 got to get to work, OK? I'll have to  
 see what graphics we have on file for  
 her.  
 (to Manager Fu)  
 Later?

MANAGER FU  
 Sure. I...uh, I better get in touch  
 with the call center.

Deshwa'an and Manager Fu leave in opposite directions  
 leaving Idora.

IDORA  
 OK, I'll look around and  
 (realizes they left)  
 see if I have any scripts from an  
 earlier segment of hers....  
 (trails off)

INT. IDORA'S OFFICE - DAY

Lizbeth is trying to crawl into the HVAC duct

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

FRANK  
 What did Arnie say?

PORTIA

He's acting as if he has nothing to do with this, but I've been watching him. Rather, I've been having him and the entire board watched.

(conspiratorially)

Frank, I'll be honest when I tell you that Arnie can play with all the young girls he wants. I don't care and I've made it known that I don't care. As a consequence, there have been a lot of affairs on his part, but he always comes back, and when he does, he usually offers me reconciliation presents. They aren't insignificant trinkets, they're things like condos and cars. But this is different. He's crossing me this time and I mean to...

Manager Fu pokes her head through the door.

MANAGER FU

Excuse me? We found somebody, it's the Dog Trainer Woman, she should be here in a couple of minutes. We're working on the graphics and set.

PORTIA

Dog trainer woman?

FRANK

Oh, right.

(to Portia)

You know, German lady, the Spaniel Spanker.

PORTIA

I'm drawing a blank.

FRANK

Beagle Beater?

MANAGER FU

Whippet Whipper?

FRANK

Poodle Punisher?

Portia shakes her head.

MANAGER FU

Anyway, sorry, but I have to run.  
I've got an email into the call  
center, I'll follow up with a call in  
a few minutes so hopefully, we'll be  
OK with the phone agent scripting.  
Happy Selling!

Manager Fu leaves.

PORTIA

Doesn't she seem like a bit of a...I  
don't know?  
(Rubbing her nose)

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN

(on Mic)  
Cue up Pressure Promo 105A.  
(off mic)  
Do we have any of the graphics for  
that German Dog Trainer?

ASSISTANT

I don't know who you...oh you mean  
The Fido Fuhrer?

DESHWA'AN

Yeah, we've got a rush job on this.

The Assistant quickly pages through some files on the server  
computer.

ASSISTANT

I show a couple of things here. We  
still have some graphics for her  
assuming the product names haven't  
changed. Huh, well that's not good.

DESHWA'AN

What?

ASSISTANT

There's a sticky in her file that  
says she isn't supposed to be let  
back in the building.

DESHWA'AN  
When was this?

ASSISTANT  
Date stamped earlier this year.

DESHWA'AN  
Can you delete that?

ASSISTANT  
Not off the server, no. But I do  
know the guy who looks after the  
server.  
(growing excited)  
It's Maricio. I've seen the way he  
looks at me, I might be able to get  
him to...

We hear a passionate Spanish trumpet flurry.

EXT. MOUNTAIN TOP - NIGHT

The Assistant and MARICIO are engaged in a passionate kiss.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
Maricio? Don't bother.

ASSISTANT  
(deflated)  
Really? Why?

DESHWA'AN  
Just say that you never saw the  
sticky, OK?

ASSISTANT  
I guess.

DESHWA'AN  
(into mic)  
Cue Pressure Promo in Cinque,  
Quattro, Tre, Due, Uno.  
(to Assistant)  
We can't have dead air or a rerun.  
We don't have much choice do we? We  
have to fill the slot somehow. Don't  
look at me like that, we can't be  
choosers right now, ya know?

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
 Cooking can be fun. Cooking can be  
 adventurous.  
 (chuckling)  
 And maybe Cooking can be a little  
 dangerous. Especially if you're  
 "Cooking With Pressure!"

We hear high energy synth-pop.

# INSERT

Montage of outtakes from Chef Pierre Pressure's shows,  
 scalding his guest host with oil, getting honey out of a  
 honeycomb and getting stung, putting something in a blender  
 and having it shoot its contents to the ceiling and (of  
 course) serving Cherries Jubilee and setting himself on  
 fire. The announcer's VO continues while the montage is  
 showing.

ANNOUNCER (V.O. cont.)  
 Chef Pierre Pressure has cooked meals  
 for Canada's finest, from celebrities  
 like Gemini Award Winning Actor  
 Nicholas Campbell to past Presidents  
 of the Privy Counsel. His Montreal  
 based restaurant @233 has garnered  
 two stars from the prestigious  
 Canadian Tire company's Canadian  
 Treasures 2013 online catalog and  
 also received a favorable mention in  
 the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph's  
 weekend supplement "Things to do in  
 Quebec when you're stumped for things  
 to do in Quebec". (Fade)

# DRONE POV

In the reception area, HILDA HEITLER, a German woman wearing  
 Jodhpurs and thigh high boots with a good six inch heel  
 enters with a MARK, a young man walking behind her.  
 He's dressed in a t-shirt and shorts, is carrying a heavy  
 box and has his eyes cast down on the ground. Hilda speaks  
 in a thick German accent and Mark never talks. Hilda  
 approaches the front desk.

HILDA  
Hallo. I am Mistress Heitler. I received a call saying you wanted me on a segment.

SUZE  
Yeah, thanks, I'll let them know. Sorry for the short notice. Uh, you do dogs, right?

HILDA  
What?

SUZE  
I mean you train them, right?

HILDA  
Why do you ask?

SUZE  
Well, I've got a little Shih Tzu and I've been trying to train her to stay out of my pot plants, um, plant pots.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

Suze nervously twists her hair with her fingers.

SUZE  
You know, flower pots.

Hilda swipes her riding crop across Suze's desk.

HILDA  
You spoil the dog, ya? The dog is stupid, you are the smart one, no?  
(swipes crop again)  
You are being too lax. The only thing the beast will understand is discipline, no?

SUZE  
No, I mean, yeah, sure, I guess so. Could you, um, please take a seat, let me get Manager Fu on the phone.

Suze texts Manager Fu before going back to her stocks.

HILDA  
 I shall sit.  
                   (to her companion)  
 You. Stay!

Hilda goes over to the chairs and sits down.

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

Manager Fu is drinking a cup of coffee out of a to-go cup  
 and eating Yogurt out of a small container.

We hear Manager Fu's text ring

Manager Fu pulls out her phone and looks at it.

MANAGER FU  
                   (to herself)  
 The Beagle has landed? Oh, must be  
 the dog lady.  
                   (sighs)  
 She throws the yogurt away and leaves  
 toward the reception desk.

INT. IDORA'S OFFICE - DAY

Lizabeth is stuck in the HVAC vent.

LIZBETH  
                   (quietly)  
 Help?

INT. RECEPTION AREA

Manager Fu briskly enters and Suze nods over to where Hilda  
 is sitting.

MANAGER FU  
 Hi there, you must be Hilda

HILDA  
 Yah. She stands up

MANAGER FU  
 OK.  
                   (to Suze)  
 Suze, could you sign them in?

(MORE)

MANAGER FU (cont.)  
 (to Hilda)  
 Hi, I'm Manger Fu, we'll get you  
 situated. We really appreciate you  
 coming here on such short notice.  
 (looks around)  
 Uh, are they outside?

HILDA  
 Is who outside?

MANAGER FU  
 The dogs. I understand you train  
 dogs.

HILDA  
 Yes, but I didn't have time to get  
 them. So I brought Mark instead.

Hilda motions toward her companion, who is still standing  
 with his eyes downcast.

MANAGER FU  
 (smiling)  
 O...K...You do train dogs, right?

HILDA  
 Why with the same question? I train  
 many disobedient beasts.

MANAGER FU  
 R-r-right. Could you stay here for  
 just a sec? I need to check on  
 something.

Manager Fu runs out of the reception area and the drone  
 follows

DRONE POV

Manager Fu runs down the hall and into Portia's office.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

MANAGER FU  
 Sorry to interrupt, but I think we  
 have a problem.

PORTIA  
 Now what?

MANAGER FU

Our dog trainer...I think she's using  
a man for a dog.

FRANK

That doesn't make any sense.

MANAGER FU

I mean, it's like she's doing some  
kind of kinky Bondage thing. It's  
pretty weird.

PORTIA

Is this man dressed like a dog?

MANAGER FU

No, but I'm getting a distinct  
vibe...

PORTIA

Look, Manager Fu, I can't be bothered  
with this right now. Who's the  
director working right now?

MANAGER FU

It's Desh...um, Mr. Remolay.

PORTIA

Run it by him.

(checks her phone)

We only have five minutes until  
airtime.

MANAGER FU

OK.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Manager Fu runs out of the office and almost runs into Idora  
who is about to enter her office.

MANAGER FU

Idora! I think we've got a problem,  
the dog lady is pretty weird.

IDORA

That's what I remember, yeah.

MANAGER FU

No, you don't understand.

(MORE)

MANAGER FU (cont.)

I'm going to get her but I need to speak with you and Deshwa'an.

IDORA

OK, I'll get...

MANAGER FU

No, just go to him and tell him I'll be there in a minute. We need to have a quick conference about our next host.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

Manager Fu runs into the reception room, and smiles at Hilda. She's a little out of breath from all the running.

MANAGER FU

Suze, could you get a couple of temp badges?

Suze rummages through her desk and finds two clip on security badges. She hands them to Manager Fu who in turn hands one to Hilda and is about to take the other one to Hilda's assistant Mark, but Hilda takes that one as well and clips it on Mark, right about where his nipple would be and twists it. Mark reacts to the pain.

MANAGER FU

This way, please.

Manager Fu leads the two down the hall, Hilda walking ahead and Mark three steps behind, still looking at the floor.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Idora, Deshwa'an, Manager Fu and the Assistant are huddled together.

DESHWA'AN

I don't see that we have much choice.  
(to Assistant)  
We're you able to find any intro footage?

ASSISTANT

Yeah, it's pretty innocuous. Dogs romping in a park, that sort of thing.

DESHWA'AN  
 (to Manager Fu)  
 Did you get a list of products?

MANAGER FU  
 Yeah. Maybe I overreacted. It's all  
 dog collars, chokers, DVDs.

IDORA  
 OK. We go with this?

DESHWA'AN  
 Yeah, we've got two minutes.  
 (shakes his head)  
 Anybody want a drink after this is  
 over?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

Idora is standing at a table. The set is mostly bare.  
 She's got her tablet in one hand and is getting last minute  
 makeup touch ups. Hilda and Mark are off to the side.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
 Pyat, Chye-tir-ye, Tri, Dva, A-  
 deen...

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

ON SCREEN

IDORA is introducing the new segment.

IDORA  
 Welcome back, Compulsives, I hope you  
 all had a great holiday. Personally,  
 I'm finding it a little tough to get  
 back in the swing of things.  
 I'm telling you, when the alarm clock  
 went off this morning I just wanted  
 to keep hitting snooze.  
 (MORE)

IDORA (cont.)

But I think I'm getting back on the good foot.

We hear an unintelligible remark from crew member

IDORA (cont.)

(laughing)

Oh no you don't Don, you can't say that!

(looks at camera)

Enough playing around. Last hour I said that we would be showing our unique kitchen and pantry storage solutions, but we've had a bit of a last minute change. We've got a real treat for you today. Has Fido taken control of your life? Is he doing that embarrassing doggie thing when guests arrive? Does Spot live up to his name? Well we've got the Doggie Diva, Mistress Hilda Heitler here with a few products that might make your life easier.

INSERT

A text box appears in the lower left "HILDA HEITLER'S BAD DOG!"

HILDA

Thank you Idora. Ya, today we will talk about the one thing that your dog needs. No, it's not food, and no it's not love. Can you guess? Ya, it's discipline! Dogs, when left on their own, are disgusting, dirty animals and they like to do dirty, disgusting things. To demonstrate, I usually have my dogs with me, but today, you might notice that I do not. Ya, instead, I have this pathetic excuse for a man, and I will use him to demonstrate some of the products.

Hilda puts a choke chain around Mark's neck.

HILDA (cont.)

This looks like the standard choke chain, ya?

(MORE)

HILDA (cont.)  
 But it's made out of high grade  
 stainless steel ensuring that it will  
 outlast the consecutive lives of  
 three dogs. When your Dog starts  
 behaving badly, you have to correct  
*it*.

She pulls on the chain, choking Mark

HILDA (cont.)  
 Ya, and this can't be something you  
 do once or twice, you have to do this  
 always and for a while ya?

She repeatedly chokes Mark, whose face turns a nice shade of  
 red.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Deshwa'an, Manager Fu and Assistant react to Hilda's actions

DESHWA'AN  
 Ouch.

MANAGER FU  
 This is kind of what I was afraid of,  
 but it's not that bad, right?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right.

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Hilda, Mark and Idora continue.

IDORA  
 The chain is our product number  
 HHBD007, that's \$39.99 and it's  
 guaranteed for the life of your pet.  
 (hand to her earbud)  
 And yes, I'm told that this product  
 is eligible for partial payment in  
 Compulsive Cash!

INSERT

The item and price are added to the lower left text box  
"CORRECTION CHAIN HBD007 \$36.72"

INSERT

Scroll on bottom of screen "USE YOUR COMPULSIVE CASH FOR A  
FURTHER DISCOUNT!"

Hilda removes the chain from Mark's neck.

HILDA  
Ya, that's right.

She takes her riding crop and gives Mark a swipe across his  
ass, both Mark and Idora react.

HILDA (cont.)  
Sometimes you need to use what I call  
a little persuasion, ya? Do you have  
the number for this, Idora?

IDORA  
(flustered)  
I'm, uh, not exactly sure...

DRONE POV

The drone heads down the hall and stops at the reception  
area.

Suze is looking at stock quotes on her tablet when a COP (a  
very buffed out policeman) enters carrying a large bag.

COP  
I'm looking for  
(looks at his phone)  
a...an...Idora Hernandez.

SUZE  
I think she's on camera right now, is  
there something I can help you with?

COP  
I'm sorry, I can't discuss ongoing  
investigations, ma'am.

SUZE  
Sure, uh, I guess, um, if you could  
sign in? I could have you wait here.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

COP

I don't know, it's pretty urgent.

SUZE

Well, you could wait in her office.  
Would that work?

COP

I think that would be best.

SUZE

OK, it's down the hall, make the  
first right and then it's the  
(thinking)  
second door on the left.

DRONE POV

The drone is still hanging around the reception desk.

COP

Much obliged ma'am. Oh, and do me a  
favor?

The Cop puts his index finger to his mouth, turns, and heads  
down the hall with the drone following.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in the lower right

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Hilda and Mark are continuing their demonstrations, the  
latter is in some real discomfort.

INSERT

A text box appears in the lower left "Hilda Heitler's Bad  
Dog! CORRECTION CHAIN HBD007 \$36.72"

HILDA

Und sometimes you can't be around all  
the time, ya?

(MORE)

HILDA (cont.)

In this case, we need still to prevent the pathetic animal's revolting behavior, so we have this Schockkragen, nein, what you call Elektrische Collar, ya? You can see it comes in the large size, ya, we also have ones for medium and small animals. You can set the Umgrenzung, the how do you say border limit so if the horrible thing goes where it shouldn't it will receive a powerful correction. We didn't have time to set this up, but happily, there is an app for this!

During the above, she proceeds to put the collar around hapless Mark's neck and when she is finished, she pushes a button on her phone. Mark reacts by jumping around spastically.

HILDA (cont.)

You have to be careful, but it's kind of addicting, ya?  
(playfully)  
One more time, what do you say?

She pushes it again with the same result.

HILDA (cont.)

This is a little fun, ya? One more time?

Mark starts to shake his head but Hilda goes ahead and presses it as Mark flails about.

DRONE POV

The Cop stops at a door that has a sign saying Idora Hernandez. The cop compares the lettering on the door to a text on his phone, nods and knocks on the door.

INT. IDORA'S OFFICE - DAY

Lizbeth has managed to extricate herself from the vent and is trying to hide beneath the desk when the door bursts open and the cop sees her.

COP

Freeze.

LIZBETH

(terrorized)

Oh ~~shit~~! I surrender. I'm sorry, I truly am. I didn't think it would come to this, I really thought it was legal.

(resigned)

Did the ~~Tupperware~~ people send you?

COP

~~Tupperware~~? What?

The Cop shakes his head and gets out his handcuffs.

COP

I don't know about no ~~Tupperware~~, but I've been told you've been very bad...

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Hilda, Mark and Idora continue.

INSERT

In left text box: "HILDA HEITLER'S BAD DOG TOTAL DEAL: \$129.35"

INSERT

Bottom of the screen crawl: "INCLUDES CHOKE COLLAR, ELEKTRISCHE COLLAR SIZES LARGE MEDIUM AND SMALL, AND THE COMPLETE DVD SET 'CORRECTING BEHAVIOR IN ANIMALS AND HUMANS'"

HILDA

Ya, we have a special deal for you today. If you buy the entire kit, that includes the choke collar, elektrische and DVDs, we'll include a mini Schockkragen. This can go on their disgusting doggie parts.

(MORE)

HILDA (cont.)  
 This miserable, pathetic example I  
 have before you...  
 (indicating Mark)  
 is wearing it now, ya? Where you  
 can't see it. And it's even more  
 effective than the one around his  
 neck. This app has a dial which goes  
 from a reminding tingle to a kick in  
 the gut.

Hilda pushes the button on her phone and Mark doubles over  
 in pain. She looks over at Mark.

HILDA (cont.)  
 Such a poor excuse for a man, that  
 was only a little bit above halfway.  
 (eyes gleaming)  
 Do you want to see it at full  
 strength?

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Deshwa'an, Manager Fu and Assistant react.

DESHWA'AN, MANAGER FU and ASSISTANT  
 Nooooo!

We hear the sound of Mark whimpering in agony.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in the lower right

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Hilda, Mark and Idora continue.

INSERT

In left text box: "HILDA HEITLER'S BAD DOG TOTAL DEAL:  
 \$129.35"

INSERT

Bottom of the screen crawl: "INCLUDES CHOKE COLLAR, ELEKTRISCHE COLLAR SIZES LARGE MEDIUM AND SMALL, AND THE COMPLETE DVD SET 'CORRECTING BEHAVIOR IN ANIMALS AND HUMANS' "

IDORA

Oh...my.

Mark is rolled up in a fetal position

HILDA

What did I say? Such a disgusting, horrible creature. You too can learn how to control such miserable things by purchasing my Bad Dog Total Deal, ya? And if you live in the tri-state area, you can hail me by text or phone at 800.555.1422, day or night.

Hilda thrusts her phone out with a slightly raised stiff arm.

HILDA (cont.)

Hail Heitler!

IDORA

(speechless)

Um...I don't really, um...

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN

Cue the damn Pressure promo!

ASSISTANT

Again?

DESHWA'AN

Achtung, roll in Fünf, Vier, Drei, Zwei, Eins

(off mic)

Holly ~~shit~~.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Cooking can be fun. Cooking can be adventurous.

(chuckling)

And maybe Cooking can be a little dangerous. Especially if you're

"Cooking With Pressure!"

(VO continues under)

(MORE)

ANNOUNCER (V.O. cont.)

He's cooked for First Ministers and pop stars such as Garou! He's mastered the art of Canadian Cuisine at his famous Montreal Restaurant @233. His informal, fun, and slightly scary cooking methods demystify such dishes as Poutine, Beaver Tail, Nanaimo Bars...

(fade)

DESHWA'AN

(Leaning back) Well that's it, I'm outta here. I'm serious about that drink, any takers?

(on mic)

Idora, want to get a drink? No? OK.

(looks around)

Anybody game?

ASSISTANT

I can't, I gotta work the next couple of hours.

MANAGER FU

I can join you for a quick one, but I have to drive later so...

DESHWA'AN

No problem, we can make it quick. I just need to finish up here.

MANAGER FU

I have to escort our guests out and then get my things, see you at the front desk?

DESHWA'AN

Sure, give me ten minutes, 'K?

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Idora is walking down the hall. Portia sees her and calls Idora into her office.

PORTIA

Oh, Idora? How did the show go?

IDORA

I don't really know, I feel kind of...dirty.

PORTIA  
(clueless)  
Really? Well I wanted to give you  
this.

Portia hands Idora the birthday card

PORTIA (cont.)  
This is from all of us here at the  
Network. Happy Birthday.

IDORA  
What? Oh thanks, that's...sweet.  
Thanks, but I, um, I've got to be  
running.

PORTIA  
Going out tonight?

IDORA  
No, I think I'll just head home, I'm  
kind of beat. Later.

Idora gives the happy gesture but doesn't say anything and  
walks out of the office and down the hall.

DRONE POV

Idora is leaning against the wall and opening the card.

INSERT

We see the card close up. It's completely blank save for  
the pre-printed words "Happy Birthday"

She throws her head back and sighs.

We hear her phone ring and Idora picks it up.

INSERT

On Idora's phone is a picture of an attractive black woman  
and the name BFF Aletha.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

IDORA  
Hey Aletha. What? No, a bad day  
that's all.

(MORE)

IDORA (cont.)

(her frustration  
builds)

What? Oh, thanks, but there's nothing happy about it. 'Leath? Can you keep a secret? 'Leath, I'm...I'm pregnant.

(starts to sob)

But that's just it...I don't know. Well there was a party and I guess I had too much to drink and everybody was wearing these stupid masks and... Yeah no, I missed it and I don't know, I just had this feeling, you know. No, I'm certain, I checked with Dr. Rose. What? Last week. I don't know, I'm kind of out of it. Mom and Pop? No, of course I haven't told them, I don't know what I'll, how I'll...

(breaks down)

'Leath? What am I gonna do?

(after a beat)

What? What special gift? You got me something? No, I don't think so.

(laughing through  
her tears)

No, I'm sure of that. Listen, I've got to run, can we...later yeah. Thanks.

Idora hangs up and hits her head with her fist a few times.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

In the studio, Hilda and Mark are gone, Manager Fu walks across the set and comes across something on the floor. She looks around and picks it up. It's a very small shock collar. She smiles, puts it in her pocket and walks toward her office with a bit of a spring in her step.

DRONE POV

Idora gets up and walks down the hall with the drone following. She gets to her office, leans in and listens. Music seems to be coming from within. She straightens up and opens the door.

INT. IDORA'S OFFICE - DAY

There is confetti everywhere and two open bottles of champagne. Lizbeth is in her underwear, handcuffed to a chair. The cop is down to a Speedo and is right next to Lizbeth's face writhing to the music.

We hear Snap's "I'VE GOT THE POWER" or equivalent.

LIZBETH

(giggling)

It's the ~~Tupperware~~ Police! Come on  
in and join us, Idora.

COP

(looks at Idora)

You're Idora? Well hell yeah, Idora,  
there's room for one more-a!

BLACK OUT

CREDITS

SONG: PEPPY K-POP 강박 구매자 (The Obsessive Shopper)

SINGER:

(shouted)

I'm compulsive!

(singing)

Sometimes I'm angry

Sometimes I'm sad

But I've got a secret

Something always makes me happy

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

Sometimes I feel sick

Sometimes I feel blue

But I've got a secret

I'm always happy shopping

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

(shouted)

신발, 옷, 목도리, 바지, 가방, 팔찌

(fade)

COMPULSIVE SHOPPING NETWORK  
#105 "Ain't Been No Picnic"

Written by  
Dayle C. Hall

© 2017

[daylehall@gmail.com](mailto:daylehall@gmail.com)

BLACK SCREEN

OPENING CREDITS

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(officious voice)

Compulsive buying disorder or CBD or oniomania, from the Greek onios "for sale" and manía or "insanity", is characterized by an obsession with shopping and buying behavior that often causes adverse consequences. YCSN is not responsible for any adverse consequences that may result from a pre-existing compulsive buying disorder. If you think you or someone you know is suffering from this condition please seek the help of a licensed professional. With proper treatment this condition can *sometimes* be successfully treated.

DESHWA'AN (VO)

One Zero Zero, One One, One Zero,  
Zero One

We hear five electronic blips of a time code.

We see the back of a hand counting down from five but out of sync from the countdown and the blips. After one (middle finger) the finger points away from the camera.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora, dressed in black jeans and a black leather jacket is joined by Country Music Star DEWEY "EYES" PEARSON who is dressed in black jeans and a partially unbuttoned satin cowboy shirt, he wears an eye-patch and, of course, a black cowboy hat. They both are holding bass guitars and behind them is a display of more bass guitars in various colors.

IDORA

Welcome back, Compulsives. This is so cool! I have to say that we're absolutely thrilled to have 5 Time AMA Musician of the Year Nominee, Dewey "Eyes" Pearson, author of such hits as "Leave Me Alone To Cry", "I'm Man Enough To Cry", "A Grown Man's Tears" and my personal favorite, "I Have To Laugh (To Keep From Cryin')".  
(looking at Dewey)

You must have gone through a lot of pain to create such heartfelt songs.

DEWEY

Well Idora, they say you're supposed to write about what you know. If I've written so many sad songs it's because my life ain't been no picnic, which incidentally, is the title of my latest Album.

Dewey holds up the CD.

INSERT

We see a close up of the CD cover featuring Dewey sitting in a park on a blanket with a picnic basket etc. The name of the CD is: "Ain't Been No Picnic".

IDORA (V.O.)

(confused)

I, uh, I don't get it. It looks like you're having a picnic.

DEWEY (V.O.)

Yeah, I didn't get it at first either, but Ed at the label explained that it's something called "irony".

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Dewey both nod their heads.

IDORA

Ahh.

(to Dewey)

Well we can't wait to hear it.

DEWEY

Well that just might take a little while, 'cause we're having a few legal problems with a couple of the songs. They supposedly sound a little like some other songs that I wrote, but I no longer have the rights to 'em. It's almost like I'm suing myself for plagiarism.

(chuckling)

That's like masturbation to a lawyer, right?

(looks offscreen)

What, I can't say that?

(looks at Idora)

Sorry, I'm not a fan of the legal profession, they just seem like a bunch of pond scum, living off the creative ideas and energies of others. You know what they're like? Remoras, that's what. I seen this documentary about sharks on the nature channel the other night and... sorry, I'm getting a little carried away, huh? It just get's me P.O.'d that my own material is being used against me. Sure there may be similarities, but when you get right down to it, everything sounds like everything else, right? There's nothin' new under the sun, which incidentally is also the single from my new album.

IDORA

Wow, that's great. Can you give us a special preview?

DEWEY

I'd love to, but there's some legal problems with that one too.

IDORA

(to Dewey)

I guess we'll just have to wait a little longer then.

IDORA (cont.)

(to Camera)

In the meantime, YCSN and Dewey are offering a special deal on Dewey's Total Bass Guitar Method. It's a fabulous deal. It includes a customized autographed bass guitar - the exact same model of bass guitar that Dewey plays in concerts, and an amplifier, audio cord and a set of instructional DVDs. This is item number Item DP-TBGM031, you'll get everything you need so you can learn to play the bass to all of his hit songs. You get all this for only \$369.99!

INSERT

Text box appears in the lower left: "ITEM DP-TBGM031 DEWEY  
"EYES" PEARSON'S TOTAL BASS GUITAR METHOD \$354.23"

IDORA

Can you demonstrate a little of what our Compulsives can expect when they order this product? How about singing and playing one of your hits?

DEWEY

Well, I would truly love to, but because of an injunction filed by one of my ex-wives, I can only perform my songs in certain specific venues. Shopping Networks, Malls and Infomercials are specifically prohibited in the court documents. So I'm afraid we'll have to go with some of what we call public domain songs.

Dewey senses a little disappointment from Idora, so he puts a comforting hand on her knee.

DEWEY

That's OK girl, we can make it work.

Dewey plays one note repeatedly.

DEWEY (cont.)

Recognize this tune?

IDORA

(confused)

That's not a song, that's just one note being played over and over again.

DEWEY

Well, that's what it sounds like to the non-musician. But if you played an instrument, you'd recognize this as an old folk favorite, "On Top of Old Smokey". Give a listen here.

Dewey starts singing "On Top of Old Smokey" with the same bass note throughout.

IDORA

Shouldn't there be, I don't know chord changes or something?

DEWEY

It's what's called a pedal tone. I can keep playing the note and the guitars and stuff can do all the changes. Here's another one.

Dewey starts singing "You Are My Sunshine" with the same one note bass.

IDORA

You're playing the same bass part.

DEWEY

Am I? Am I? Now you try it!

Idora and Dewey both play the same note over again while Dewey sings "You Are My Sunshine" in the same manner and then stops.

DEWEY

(singing)

"You are my sunshine,  
my only sunshine.  
You make me happy,  
when skies are gray..."

(stops and looks at

Idora)

You know what's special about this method? I can literally guarantee that within minutes, you'll be able to play the bass just like me.

Dewey starts to sing "Blue Tail Fly" while playing the same bass note)

DEWEY (cont.)  
 "Jimmy Crack Corn, and I don't care,  
 Jimmy Crack Corn and I don't care,  
 Jimmy Crack Corn, and I don't  
 care..."

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

A very disheveled Lizbeth walks off with a cup of coffee.  
 Manager Fu and Deshwa'an watch her leave.

MANAGER FU  
 Does she work here now?

DESHWA'AN  
 I'm not sure. I think she might be  
 living here. Hey listen, I had a  
 good time the other night, but...

MANAGER FU  
 But what?

DESHWA'AN  
 I think it would be best if we, you  
 know...

MANAGER FU  
 (sensing a breakup)  
 Put the brakes on this?

DESHWA'AN  
 What? No, not at all. I mean,  
 unless, you know, you want to...I  
 just think that, for work purposes we  
 don't want to...

MANAGER FU  
 Appear too close?  
 (relieved)  
 Yeah, no, I get it. We both have to  
 work here, I, we don't want rumors to  
 start up.

DESHWA'AN  
 That's what I'm sayin'. I mean it's  
 not that I'm not serious, I am, I  
 mean not serious, but, you know,  
 serious. It's just that...

Frank walks up to their table

FRANK  
Hello you two. Having fun?

DESHWA'AN  
(guilty)  
Absolutely not.

MANAGER FU  
No sir. No fun at all, just work.  
(brown-nosing)  
Not that work isn't fun.

DESHWA'AN  
Right. If we were having fun, which  
we most definitely aren't, it would  
be because we're working, right?

FRANK  
(suspicious)  
Am I interrupting something?

MANAGER FU  
What? No, nothing. Why, what's up?

FRANK  
Portia wants to see you in the  
conference room in ten. Both of you.

MANAGER FU  
Both of us?  
(guilty)  
What's this about?

DESHWA'AN  
(excited)  
Is this about my idea for YCSN Sur?

We hear a Mariachi Trumpet Fanfare

INT. YCSN SUR SET - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN SUR" bug in lower right

INSERT

ON SCREEN

YCSN SUR is Deshwa'an's idea of a Mexican clone of YCSN, featuring hosts BALCETA VÁSQUEZ and RAOUL "PLASTIQUE" GUERRERO (Idora and Jonas if they were Mexicans). The set and clothing are very pastel and Balceta's top is very low cut

BALCETA

Hola Compulsivos, bienvenida de nuevo! ¿No nos estamos divirtiendo? Estoy Balceta Vásquez y hoy nos complace tener a Raoul "Plastique" Guerrero con un producto especial, Durian DeTox de Jonas Glorio.

We hear a gunshot and ricochet

BALCETA (cont.)

¿Quieres piel de aspecto más joven? ¿Quieres tomar una máquina de tiempo virtual para recuperar tu juventud perdida? Entonces usted necesita comprar Jonas Glorio's Durain DeTox. Llame hoy, los operadores están de pie...

Balceta takes a whiff of the product.

BALCETA (cont.)

Ai, yai, yai, huele horrible!

RAOUL

No, Balceta, no huele mal. Ese olor es exótico. Ese olor dice que está funcionando.

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

FRANK

What? No, we've got a little meeting to talk about a few issues, we're trying to have as much staff present as possible. See you two in a bit?

Frank walks away.

MANAGER FU

(whispering)

He knows.

DESHWA'AN  
(whispering back)  
What? No. You think?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Dewey continue the segment. Idora is getting a bit frustrated with Dewey but is trying not to let it show.

INSERT

Text box appears in the lower left: "Item DP-TBGM031 Dewey  
"Eyes" Pearson's Total Bass Guitar Method \$354.23"

IDORA  
(looks at tablet)  
Well, we've got another caller coming  
in via Skype, is this Bill? Go  
ahead, Bill.

INSERT

Skype window opens in right of screen. BILL is a young student with a choppy Skype connection.

BILL  
Hey Dewey, you suck!  
(laughs)

The Skype window goes black.

IDORA  
Oh gee, I'm sorry, Dewey.  
(looking to booth)  
We usually do a better job screening  
these calls...

DEWEY  
That's OK.  
(looking sad)  
I think he might be right. I guess I  
do suck...

IDORA

No, you...ah, you're great, you,  
ah...

(fast)

...we've got another caller. Is this  
Gretta?

INSERT

Skype window opens in right of screen. GRETТА, a large,  
older diner waitress appears.

GRETТА

Hi Idora, long time compulsive here.  
In Cheyenne you're over the air on  
channel 67.5 and I don't watch  
anything else. Actually, I can't  
watch anything else. I mean  
literally, on account of me getting a  
little pasted one night and gluing  
the remote to 67 point 5 which was,  
in retrospect, a pretty stupid idea.  
Anyway, I absolutely adore your show,  
if I had a million dollars I'd buy  
everything you sell.

IDORA

That's...sweet.

GRETТА

And Dewey, don't listen to people  
like that little creep who just  
called in. If you suck at all it's  
in the best possible way.

DEWEY

Why thank you ma'am.

GRETТА

I love your music, it really touches  
me. Sometimes I'll get a bottle of  
Jack, put on one of your CD's and  
have a good cry. It's cleansing, you  
know? And by the way, can I ask a  
question? How'd you get your  
nickname?

DEWEY

You mean "Eyes"? Well of course,  
Dewey is my first name.

(MORE)

DEWEY (cont.)

Because I wrote sad songs, my first manager Reggie Tinsdale called me Dewey Eyes and it stuck. Of course, that's before I had my accident...

IDORA

You don't have to talk about it...

DEWEY

No, that's all right. I had my eye poked out when a string broke during a concert in Lubbock, Texas, it came flying right off the bass and snapped into my eye, causing it, my eye I mean, to go flying into the crowd. So now I guess it's more irony seeing as I only have one eye, but my nickname is Eyes.

IDORA

That's such a sad story. But Compulsives, you'll be happy to know that some good came out of this.

Idora points to a device on the bass guitar, some kind of fret guard.

IDORA (cont.)

Because you see, that's why a string guard has been built into the neck, preventing accidents like this from ever happening. What a great feature!

(looks at camera)

Now you can play bass without the worry of something like Dewey's tragic accident happening to you.

GRETTA

Oh, that's pretty neat, and I hadn't heard that story before. That makes more sense than what I heard.

IDORA

Why what did you hear?  
(immediately  
regretting it)

GRETТА

Well I heard it wasn't a guitar string but an incident with a stump broke cow that wasn't really stump broke.

Skype window goes black

IDORA

...and we seem to have lost Gretta.

DRONE POV

The drone is in Portia's office. Portia is looking at her laptop and Frank is looking over her shoulder

PORTIA

(paging through emails)

We've been getting a lot of weird emails the past few days.

FRANK

I'm not surprised after that Nazi dog trainer was on the other day. Are they all negative?

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

PORTIA

No they're not, they're mixed. We seem to have hit a nerve with the right wing nut jobs. They're being supportive, but at the same time we're getting roasted by the left. Lots of complaints about mistreatment of animals, but surprisingly, nothing about that horrible woman's assistant. I never thought of any of this being political...

INT. STUDIO - DAY

We see Mark (Hilda's assistant) rolling on the floor in agony.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

FRANK

Well with all this email action, are they buying anything?

PORTIA

No, near as I can tell they are either promising to buy or threatening not to buy.

FRANK

To buy or not buy, right?

PORTIA

(humorlessly)

Yes, very funny.

FRANK

But no calls for an out and out boycott?

PORTIA

(looking at laptop)

Not that I can see. I haven't run the numbers, but it looks like it's a wash. I mean that for everyone we've pissed off we seem to have found a new fan to take their place.

FRANK

Hmm.

(straightening up)

So for this meeting today, what's on the agenda?

PORTIA

A couple of things. Some housekeeping stuff that HR has been after me about. Also, I've been thinking about Animus Equity's buyout proposal. We need to let key staff members in on what's been going on. I also have an idea to make things a little more difficult for AEG.

(she smiles)

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Dewey continue the segment.

INSERT

Text box appears in the lower left: "Item DP-TBGM031 Dewey  
"Eyes" Pearson's Total Bass Guitar Method \$354.23"

DEWEY

...and after the show, this man named Sam Blair come up to me with a plastic cup and lying there on top of all these ice cubes and Sam's spit mixed with the remains of a Tequila Sunrise, was most of my eyeball. Sam told me he was thinkin' of saving it, having it mounted, selling it or something, but then he thought that we might be able to save it if it was kept on ice, but it was too late. Probably shouldn't have done all them encores. But because of that, I took the man on as my personal assistant. Figured he was an honest man, 'cause a dishonest man might've hung on to my eye. Since then he's been known as Honest Sam Blair.

(sad again)

And then Sam done run off with my third wife. But like I said, the eye wasn't no good anymore anyhow...

IDORA

OK, well you heard the man, Item DP-TBGM031, specify the color, operators are standing by.

INT. EMPTY BOILER ROOM - NIGHT

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN

(into mic)

Cue Open Heart promo, ivefay, ourfay,  
eethray, ootay, unway

Deshwa'an continues working, making notes in his tablet

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Wondering what to give that special person in your life? Surprise them with a special ring, earring, bracelet or pendant designed by celebrity spokesmodel Priscilla Von Alt.

PRISCILLA VON ALT (V.O.)  
(thick English  
accent)

I'm Priscilla Von Alt. After recovering from a near fatal heart attack, I created my "Surgical Open Heart" jewelry designs that bleeds a shower of red stones from the unique open heart surgical design...

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

Suze is staring at a graph on the screen, it's YCSN's stock prices for the last month. The last two weeks shows a precipitous downward trend.

SUZE

How much do you think I can afford? What? What percentage would that... OK, I understand. No, don't buy it yet, but if it trends below 15, go ahead and...yeah, what we discussed earlier. OK, thanks, love you too, Dad.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

There is a meeting in a conference room. There are lots of boxes labeled Jonas Glorio Designs and D.D.T. crammed into the space. Deshw'an, Manager Fu, Frank and Maricio are in attendance along with a few techs and people we haven't seen before (and might not see again). Portia is standing behind a raised lectern.

PORTIA

OK, can I have your attention?  
Please?

Portia claps her hands a couple of times to get everybody's attention.

PORTIA (cont.)

We've got a couple of things to go over so I'll make it quick. First off, we're at 100 percent compliance for taking the sexual harassment course. Give yourselves a round of applause. Our legal team and our insurers thank you.

Everyone responds with light applause and mumbles

ALL

OK, sure, not like we had any choice...

PORTIA

My second point. Everybody?

The mumbling stops.

PORTIA (cont.)

Second is that we are going to have to have a fire drill within the next week. People on set and in the booth will be exempt, but you'll be expected to know where the exits and extinguishers are located.

DESHWA'AN

Well, we work with Chef Pressure, so I think we've got a good idea about those fire extinguishers.

This elicits a couple of low key chuckles.

PORTIA

I'm being serious here, this is requested by the building management, right Maricio?

MARICIO

Si.

Subtitle: Yes.

PORTIA

We've emailed each of you a map of the building along with evacuation procedures.

(MORE)

PORTIA (cont.)

So please take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the location of the extinguishers, first aid stations and emergency exits. If you have questions, you can ask Maricio, or your safety captain, OK?

MARICIO

Si.

Subtitle: Yes

PORTIA

Si. I mean yes. And just who is the safety captain here?

DESHWA'AN

(embarrassed)

That would be me.

PORTIA

OK, can you make sure that everybody is aware of the safety stations and fire exits?

MANAGER FU

(to Deshwa'an)

Safety Captain?

(laughs)

What kind of brown-nosing...

DESHWA'AN

I thought it came with a pay raise.

PORTIA

People? My third point is that I'm happy to report that you all will be getting a thirty five percent raise effective the next pay period.

Much applause and positive shouts.

PORTIA (cont.)

And this will be retroactive to the first of the year.

More Applause and shouts.

PORTIA (cont.)  
 You've been working hard and we want  
 to reward you.

FRANK  
 (aside)  
 Portia, can't we talk about this?

PORTIA  
 (aside)  
 Later, Frank. Where was I? Oh yes,  
 a thirty five percent raise across  
 the board. Except for you, Maricio,  
 because you work for the building and  
 not the network, you'll continue to  
 get paid at your current hourly rate.

MARICIO  
 Ai Yai Yai!  
 (under his breath)  
 Mierda!

Subtitle: Ai Yai Yai! ~~Shit!~~

Maricio leaves. Portia starts to follow and then stops.

PORTIA  
 Oh, and there is one other thing.  
 It's likely that the network will be  
 acquired by a private equity company  
 called Animus Equity Global. Nothing  
 has been finalized, but they are  
 pushing pretty hard for the takeover.  
 It's not a done deal yet, and I have  
 my own feelings about it, but these  
 things take on a life of their own.  
 Anyway, as part of the terms of this  
 acquisition, approximately half of  
 your jobs will be made redundant.  
 That's all I've got for now.

Portia starts to leave again.

MANAGER FU  
 We're getting fired?

PORTIA  
 (trying to clarify)  
 Not fired. You haven't done anything  
 wrong. You're just being made  
 redundant. Possibly being made  
 redundant.

FRANK  
Laid off. Possibly.

PORTIA  
Not everybody, just approximately  
half of you.

FRANK  
(smiling)  
Don't be so negative. Half of you  
will keep your jobs.

PORTIA  
Possibly.

DESHWA'AN  
Which half?

The group loudly discusses this.

PORTIA  
(shouting over mob)  
I'm sure you all have questions. I'm  
sorry, but we don't have all the  
answers right now, but we'll keep you  
in the loop, I promise. Email me  
your concerns and...I just want to  
say that all of you are like family  
to me...

DESHWA'AN  
(sotto voce)  
Well half of us are anyway...

PORTIA  
...and as soon as we know more,  
you'll know more. Thank you for your  
time. Happy Selling!

Portia and Frank leave, Idora rushes in

IDORA  
Sorry I'm late. I was working with  
Dewey Pearson and it went on a bit  
long. He's pretty depressing.

DESHWA'AN  
Dewey? Did he tell the story how he  
lost his eye?

IDORA  
Yeah, he said it happened during a  
concert. A string broke on his bass.

MANAGER FU  
I heard he lost it in a knife fight  
with his manager.

ASSISTANT  
I heard it was an accident with a  
stump broke cow...

IDORA  
(disgusted)  
Is that really a thing? That's the  
second time I've heard that.

MANAGER FU  
(to Deshwa'an)  
Stump broke? What's that?

DESHWA'AN  
It's when you train a farm animal  
to...never mind, I'll tell you later.

IDORA  
So what did I miss?

The throng starts all at once, but Deshwa'an whistles  
through his teeth and stops them.

DESHWA'AN  
(acknowledges the  
silence)  
Thank you.  
(turns to Idora)  
Well, first, there's a fire drill  
coming up. We have to know where the  
extinguishers and exits are.

IDORA  
(a rare joke)  
We'll I've been working long enough  
with Chef Press...

ASSISTANT  
(stopping Idora)  
Secondly, we're all getting a thirty  
five percent raise.

IDORA  
Really? Wow, that's...fantastic!

MANAGER FU

Yeah. And here's the sound of the other shoe dropping: around half of us are going to get laid off.

DESHWA'AN

Possibly laid off.

IDORA

What?

MANAGER FU

I'm sure you've heard the buyout rumors? Well apparently there's a lot of truth to those rumors.

IDORA

Have they said who...

DESHWA'AN

Is getting the axe? No, they're letting us twist in the wind. Twist in the wind...

IDORA

But...I can't lose this job. I need, I need our health plan.

DESHWA'AN

Yeah I hear you, I've got this molar...

IDORA

No, you don't understand!

(freaking)

I have to have health insurance.

(looks around)

Where'd Portia go? I have to talk to her.

MANAGER FU

I don't know, her office maybe? Or maybe she headed home?

DRONE POV

Frank and Portia are leaving via the reception area  
Frank is wearing an overcoat and Portia is wearing an outfit  
with some fur.

FRANK

I don't get it. Why the raise?

PORTIA

It's part of my plan. A poison pill. We're going to shoot for increasing our operating expenses and lowering our profits.

(looking up)

Mess with me, Arnie?

(she laughs)

You'll see.

FRANK

You're trying to screw up the deal? Purposely?

IDORA

That's right. I aim to toss a monkey wrench straight into Pandora's Box.

(acknowledges Suze)

Good night...temp.

SUZE

(ignoring snub)

Ah, Ms. DeSoto. You might not want to leave just yet, or at least leave by this exit.

PORTIA

Why? What's going on?

SUZE

There's a small demonstration out front? It started off peaceful enough, but now there's been some clashes between some Alt-Right Skinheads, PETA Protesters and the Man Cow Love Association, and yeah, I never heard of the last one either.

PORTIA

Dewey!

FRANK

Heitler!

PORTIA

(rolling her eyes)

Protests? We're not about politics, we're all about selling. There's no politics in selling!

SUZE  
I wouldn't know, ma'am, maybe not,  
but the last person who left was the  
building maintenance guy and he got  
pelted with raw eggs.

FRANK  
What do we do?

PORTIA  
(sarcastically)  
We take the helicopter on the roof.

FRANK  
We've got a helicopter?

PORTIA  
No, I was being...never mind, we'll  
take the stairs in the back.  
(to Suze)  
Dear, will you call us an Uber?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

We hear high energy pop music.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box on left of screen: "FINALLY, IN MY SIZE!"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Segment is "Finally, In My Size!" the two plus-sized hosts D'ORCA (Dee-Orca) NEVADA and BRANT LARGÉ ((Larjay)are standing with a plus-sized model. D'Orca is wearing a very tight vinyl black and white dress (think killer whale) and Brant is dressed like a farm hand wearing clothes that have never been dirty. This is a fashion segment for the larger person, and both hosts spend a lot of their time eating.

D'ORCA  
(waving)  
Hi there, Compulsives, D'Orca Nevada  
here with my BFF Brant Largé.

D'Orca and Brant wave to the camera.

D'ORCA (cont.)

We're here to provide a realistic alternative, a reality check to the size zero zombie-models the fashion industry wants to thrust down our collective throats. It's Fascism is what it is! There shouldn't be tyranny in the fashion world. It should be open and beautiful for all of God's children, even, no especially more for the ones he loved a little longer and made a little bit bigger.

D'Orca takes a moment to take a slice of Pizza off a plate and starts devouring it.

BRANT

Compulsives, you know what we're all about, but for you first timers, this show is called "Finally, In My Size!" because we think that normal sized people deserve to be wearing the latest fashions without being guilt-tripped into unhealthy fad-style diets. We should all be able to shop for clothes to make us look our best. We here at FIMS! celebrate the three F's: Fashion, Food and Friendship.

Brant takes a couple of bon-bons from a plate and starts chewing on them.

D'ORCA

It's YCSN's 3 F club! We're just regular people like you, but we do have one advantage you don't - we get to see the latest fashion creations as soon as, or in some cases, before they are made available to the general public.

She takes a Snickers bar off a table and starts unwrapping it.

D'ORCA (cont.)

And if you're a member of Club Compulsive, you can get the 411 on cutting edge clothing from us before anybody else!

She starts eating the candy bar.

BRANT

That's right, D'Orca. We get to go these highfalutin fashion events and meet directly with key designers and manufacturers. You Compulsives are our loyal shoppers, and because there a lot of you, YCSN carries a lot of weight within the industry. This means that we're able to broker some incredible deals which means incredible savings  
(points to camera)  
for you!

He sticks a potato chip into a creamy dip and thrusts it into his mouth.

D'ORCA

And at the latest Las Vegas Fashion Expo, there was one word that was on everybody's lips.

D'ORCA and BRANT

Tents!

BRANT

Yes Compulsives, the Expo wasn't just intense, it was literally in tents. Due to the flooding of the Belagio's basement, the whole affair had to be moved to the parking lot.

He loads another chip with dip and starts to eat it.

D'ORCA

It was hot outside, but we were cool in the tents. But little did we know that there was another kind of tent waiting for us, as in the latest fashion style. Our model LaGenna is showing you what I'm talking about.

LAGENNA a plus sized model is dressed in what looks like one big tent with a triangular shaped hat.

BRANT

Doesn't LaGenna just look terrific? Isn't that a great look for her? Well the fantastic news is that now this amazing look can be yours!

(MORE)

BRANT (cont.)

I've got to tell you, you could almost hear a pin drop when one of Mr. Omar's models started walking down the catwalk wearing this revolutionary design.

(almost breaking up)

It was truly a special moment.

Brant comforts himself with a handful of chips, no dip.

D'ORCA

It was special wasn't it? It was one of those moments that will stick in my mind forever.

BRANT

That's so right, D'Orca, dear. Twenty years from now, if someone asks me where I was at that moment, I'm sure I'll remember it like it was yesterday. I mean twenty years ago yesterday.

(thinking hard)

No, that's not quite right...

He absently grabs another handful of chips.

D'ORCA

What's not to love? It's both revolutionary and comfortable.

(tearing up)

Brilliant, simply brilliant.

BRANT

Sure it's strikingly beautiful, but like all great fashion, or all great art, it has real depth, you know? It's not just clothing, it's a wrap that serves multiple purposes: it conjures up mystery, as in what's underneath the folds? It speaks of comfort, because it moves when you move and lets you breathe. And finally, it boldly speaks of style! Just take a look...

He takes a piece of cake from the table and shoves it into his mouth.

D'ORCA

And what says style more than the imprint of Mr. Omar of Beverly Hills' stylish Big Top Designs? And what if I told you that you don't have to make a choice of which color you want? Because we're going to give you all three for the price of one.

BRANT

Did I hear that correctly, D'Orca? Three of these stylish, all weather outerwear creations for one low price? That's just unbelievable. No, I'm serious. I refuse to believe it.

D'ORCA

(chuckling)

Believe it, Compulsives, three colors, one breathable fabric blend, one uncompromising fashion statement!

BRANT

You know you're going to see everybody this fall wearing these designs, or worse yet, knock offs of these designs. But you can get the jump on these fashion followers by purchasing this bold statement today! You don't want to be a follower, right? You want to be a leader!

He grabs another piece of cake.

D'ORCA

And of course, all of Mr. Omar's designs feature the holographic big O. It lets everybody know, in a way that's both noticeable and subtle, that you're not wearing a cheap knockoff, but that you're wearing an authentic Mr. Omar design. And you can't put a price on that!

D'Orca picks up a cabbage roll and pops it in her mouth.

BRANT

Except that we can put a price on that! We can and we have! Would you believe \$79.99 for all three colors?

(MORE)

BRANT (cont.)

But wait, it gets even better! You can use Compulsive Cash for free shipping and handling. Seventy Nine, Ninety Nine. That's less than  
(calculates)  
\$27.00 per outfit and it comes with the stylish cap that you see LaGenna wearing. The cap is in a neutral gray, but the Tentwear comes in Tan, Taupe, and Ecru!

INSERT

Text box left side of screen: "FINALLY IN MY SIZE! MR. OMAR OF BEVERLY HILLS FABULOUS TENTWEAR \$79.99"

INSERT

Scroll at the bottom of the screen: "CLUB COMPULSIVE MEMBERS, USE YOUR COMPULSIVE CASH AND AVOID THE SHIPPING AND HANDLING CHARGES!"

INT. STAIRWELL - DAY

Portia and Frank are slowly walking up the stairs. They are both quite disheveled and have had paint sprayed on them and eggs thrown at them.

FRANK

That was a bigger crowd than I expected. Nastier too.

PORTA:

I don't get it? What do they want?

FRANK

If they're trying to get their point across, this is the wrong way to do it.

PORTIA

Really, I don't understand. I'm on their side. I'm on all their sides. I'm just trying to make things affordable for them.

Idora runs in from the upstairs and meets them

IDORA

Portia, Ms. DeSoto, we have to talk.

PORTIA

Now isn't a very good time.

Idora looks at the condition of Portia and Frank.

IDORA

Why? What happened?

FRANK

There's a protest outside. We seem to have stirred up a hornets' nest.

Frank takes Portia's arm and starts to direct her up the stairs, but Idora stops them.

IDORA

I couldn't make the meeting, I was working a segment, but I was told that there are going to be layoffs?

PORTIA

You should have been copied on the email. I don't really know much more than that. Things are...somewhat fluid right now.

IDORA

Fluid? Darn right! I can't lose my job right now. I need the healthcare benefits. I can't afford Cobra.

PORTIA

Idora, I honestly don't have any idea which positions are safe and which aren't. I'm not the one in control.

Portia resumes walking up the stairs, with Idora walking backwards.

PORTIA (cont.)

But I will say that you're one of our more popular hosts, and even though you haven't been here that long...

IDORA

(hysterical)

So it's based on seniority?

PORTIA

I don't know what the metrics are.

(MORE)

PORTIA (cont.)

I was starting to say that in your short time with us, you've become almost a symbol of the Network and a symbol of trust. I can't imagine them wanting to disrupt that trust.

IDORA

Well, that's nice of you to say, but...

PORTIA

The thing is, and I can't emphasize this enough, we're a bit at the mercy of Animus Equity Global. I'm doing what I can, but I can't promise anything. I honestly don't know where this is all heading.

IDORA

But you don't understand!  
(breaking up)  
I can't lose my job!

INT. REMOTE SECTION OF YCSN BUILDING - DAY

Deshwa'an, Manager Fu, Assistant and two or three other people are in a remote corner of the YCSN building. Deshwa'an is giving the "Safety Tour". Assistant is filming with her tablet.

ASSISTANT

We're here offering Club Compulsive Members an exclusive behind the scenes look at your favorite shopping network.

DESHWA'AN

What the ~~fuck~~ is that? Who are you talking to?

ASSISTANT

(to Deshwa'an)

Our Fans. It's a live webcast. It's a Club Compulsive exclusive.

(hushed voice)

That's one of our principle directors  
(pointing tablet at Deshwa'an)

Deshwa'an Remolay. He's conducting this backstage tour.

DESHWA'AN

Really? Really? A ~~fucking~~ tour of  
fire extinguishers and stairways?

MANAGER FU

(to Deshwa'an)

The email from Portia said they  
wanted backstage stuff.

(whispering)

And you probably want to cut out the  
swears?

DESHWA'AN

~~Fuck~~ me.

(looks at his  
tablet)

Ah, right. The last one. Look guys,  
here's the last of the so-called  
safety stations. You can see the  
fire extinguisher and an additional  
exit. And that concludes the tour and  
puts us all in compliance with the  
network management and the building  
management's wishes.

(heavy sigh)

If you've got any other questions,  
you all have Maricio's email addy,  
right?

MANAGER FU

(ignoring Deshwa'an)

I never even knew this exit existed.  
Where does it go?

DESHWA'AN

(points to the door)

This? I think it leads to the  
garage. It's a long trek, so I'm not  
surprised. I don't think anybody  
ever takes it, but I suppose in the  
event of a fire, you might need to  
take it.

Deshwa'an starts to walk away.

ASSISTANT

Do they lock the door?

DESHWA'AN

(stopping)

I'm not sure, I don't think so...

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box left side of screen: "FINALLY IN MY SIZE! MR. OMAR OF BEVERLY HILLS FABULOUS TENTWEAR \$79.99"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

D'Orca and Brant continue the segment.

INSERT

Skype window opens in right of screen. D'Orca and Brant are joined by SHARISE, a plus sized fan of FIMS! Sharise is Skyping from her kitchen table and is eating what looks to be a seven course meal.

SHARISE

I love the look of Mr. Omar's latest designs. It's kind of like a large pancho, right? Could I wear this at a formal occasion?

D'ORCA

I don't see why not.

SHARISE:

Well, I don't have to tell you, D'Orca. It's hard for to find stylish clothing that compliments our Zaftig figures.

D'Orca gestures with a pig in a blanket.

D'ORCA

You're preachin' to the choir, sister.

D'Orca pops the pig in a blanket into her mouth.

BRANT

Hi Sharise!

SHARISE  
 (squealing)  
 Hi Brant!

BRANT  
 Sharise, you're going to love this.  
 We've got more for you than just Mr.  
 Omar's latest. Wait until you see  
 what we've got next.

D'ORCA  
 Getting back to the Fashion Expo in  
 Vegas, well after all that tent fun,  
 we thought that that was it, you  
 know? We couldn't see how that could  
 possibly be topped, but then we saw  
 the latest from Mario Bergamo's  
 Scusami Design House. It literally  
 took our breath away! I know that if  
 you're like me, there are some times  
 when we, I don't know, we get a  
 little jealous of some of those  
 skinny little...bitches, and I mean  
 that in the nicest way possible. But  
 why should they have all the fun,  
 huh?

Brant is finishing up a Ritz cracker hors d'oeuvres.

BRANT  
 That's right, you know our motto?  
 Fashion for the rest of us, fashion  
 for the best of us! Well LaGenna, why  
 don't you show us what you're hiding  
 under that tent.  
 (chuckling)  
 Don't worry, Compulsives, while you  
 don't have to wear anything under Mr.  
 Omar's Tentwear, LaGenna is wearing,  
 well, I hope she's wearing something  
 that will blow you away!

Brant reaches for another hors d'oeuvres.

LaGenna removes the tent and is wearing a simple top and  
 impossibly tight pants, so tight that they make movement  
 (and breathing) very difficult.

SHARISE  
 (squeals in delight)

D'ORCA

We've got skinny jeans for the rest of us! LaGenna is a BBW, plus sized and proud, but would you look at that? These pants melt pounds off her body.

BRANT

Well to simply call them pants does this clothing article a grave disservice. It's really a clothing *system*.

D'ORCA

That's right, Brant. Mario Bergamo's Scusami Design House has been studying complex materials, nanotubes, carbon fiber and spider webs to create a fabric that's unbelievably light and incredibly strong. I don't know how they do it, it's a trade secret after all, but there are rumors that the Scusami Design House has worked with the "Politecnico di Milano" Technical University to create a spider/cow clone that produces a silk-like thread in its milk. They use these threads in Mario's latest designs. Wild stuff, huh?

BRANT

Leave it to the Italians, it's like wearing a Ferrari, high tech and breathtaking. Feeling comfortable, LaGenna?

LaGenna produces a somewhat tortured smile and nods.

D'ORCA

Well I don't have to tell you that comfort and style like this doesn't come cheap.

SHARISE

I don't get care what I costs, I need to get me those spider pants!

BRANT

Well then, you can purchase Mario Bergamo's Scusami Design House Total Pants System for \$175.00.

Brant picks up a cookie and takes a bite.

INSERT

Text box on left side of screen: "MARIO BERGAMO'S Scusami  
DESIGN HOUSE TOTAL PANTS SYSTEM ITEM MB-SDHTPS040 \$169.73"

D'ORCA

Right now, this fabulous system is  
only available in the off-black color  
you see LaGenna wearing. But I'm sure  
you'll agree that we've been waiting  
for something like this forever.

BRANT

It's like the Holy Grail of Pants!

D'ORCA

And who wouldn't pay a little extra  
for this kind of look?

In the background, LaGenna starts to look a little wobbly.

SHARISE

Thank you D'Orca and Brant, this is  
just...too fantastic.

Sharise takes a mouthful of food.

SHARISE

It's amazing!

D'ORCA

Now Sharise, you know what we say.  
We appreciate the call, but...

D'ORCA and BRANT

(chuckling)

Don't talk with your mouth full!

In the background, LaGenna collapses.

INT. REMOTE SECTION OF YCSN BUILDING - DAY

Deshwa'an and company are still huddled around the stairwell  
door.

DESHWA'AN

(to himself)

I don't think it's locked. I mean  
it's a fire exit and all.

Deshwa'an walks toward the door, puts his hand on the knob.

INT. STAIRWELL - DAY

Portia, Frank and Idora are in the stairwell. Idora is walking behind them as they approach a landing with a door.

PORTIA  
You're young enough and well  
respected in this business. I'm sure  
you'd be able to find a job hosting  
with one of our competitors.

FRANK  
Portia's right, Idora. I really  
think you're over-reacting.

IDORA  
Over-reacting. You don't understand.  
I'm...

ASSISTANT'S TABLET POV

The shot has Deshwa'an framed with the door. Deshwa'an opens the door and turns back to the group.

DESHWA'AN  
You see, it's a fire door, of course  
it's unlocked, and...

The open door reveals Portia, Frank and Idora.

IDORA  
I'm...I'm...

Idora's face is perfectly framed in the Assistant's tablet shot.

IDORA  
I'm Pregnant!

Everyone's mouths drop open.

ASSISTANT'S TABLET POV

The tablet shot pivots back to Deshwa'an, who gives a limp "Happy Gesture".

DESHWA'AN  
(weakly)  
Happy Shopping?

BLACK OUT

CREDITS

SONG: PEPPY K-POP 강박 구매자 (The Obsessive Shopper)

SINGER  
(shouted)  
I'm compulsive!  
(singing)  
Sometimes I'm angry  
Sometimes I'm sad  
But I've got a secret  
Something always makes me happy

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요  
나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요  
쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요  
나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

Sometimes I feel sick  
Sometimes I feel blue  
But I've got a secret  
I'm always happy shopping

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요  
나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요  
쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요  
나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

(shouted)  
신발, 옷, 목도리, 바지, 가방, 팔찌  
(fade)

COMPULSIVE SHOPPING NETWORK  
#106 "Nice Luggage!"

Written by  
Dayle C. Hall

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daylehall@gmail.com

BLACK SCREEN

OPENING CREDITS

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(officious voice)

Compulsive buying disorder or CBD or oniomania, from the Greek onios "for sale" and manía or "insanity", is characterized by an obsession with shopping and buying behavior that often causes adverse consequences. YCSN is not responsible for any adverse consequences that may result from a pre-existing compulsive buying disorder. If you think you or someone you know is suffering from this condition please seek the help of a licensed professional. With proper treatment this condition can *sometimes* be successfully treated.

DESHWA'AN (V.O.)

다섯 (Daseot), 넷 (Net), 셋 (Set), 둘 (Dul), 한 (Han)

We hear five electronic blips of a time code.

We see the back of a hand counting down from five but out of sync from the countdown and the blips. After one (middle finger) the finger points away from the camera.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower left

We hear new age music (synthesized strings and an Indian flute).

INSERT

We see a video montage of canned shots of sunsets, an American Indian beating on a drum, swaying palm trees, an eagle flying over snow capped trees and young Maori children surrounding a thin bald man dressed in white flowing robes.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

He's traveled around the globe and beyond looking for unique artworks, fossilized tools, and semi-precious stones and minerals; articles that delight the senses and heal the mind, body and soul. He's arranged to bring you charms from voodoo priests, talismans from the horn of Africa and crystals from Navajo Medicine Men. He might be a mystic and he might not be from around here. But he's here now and we can simply call him bBob... (fading)

INT. STUDIO - DAY

The Assistant is helping BBOB with his earbud. bBOB is probably a garden variety scam artist, but he takes his position as a mystic very seriously, and may have reached the point of believing in his own powers. He is dressed in a black t-shirt and dark slacks and holds a small ball (the Mystery Sphere) in his hands.

ASSISTANT

You've done this before, right?  
Usually I give people a rundown on  
how we do things here, but..

We hear a very quiet vibration noise - it's the Assistant's phone in her pocket in vibration mode.

bBOB

(freaked out)  
What? What was that?

ASSISTANT

You could hear that? Really?  
(takes out her  
phone)  
It was on vibrate. Wow!

bBOB

I have very sensitive ears. My ears and my mind are always striving to find the hidden sounds that most people take for granted. The downside is that loud sounds can be extremely painful.

ASSISTANT  
That's OK, the studio is really  
quiet. It has to be.

bBOB  
What about that?

ASSISTANT  
What? I don't hear anything.  
(listens for a bit)  
Oh, you mean the AC? Sure we'll turn  
it off before we go live.

bBOB  
Please. I can't stand loud noises,  
they make me crazy.

ASSISTANT  
(to herself)  
That's what did it.

bBOB  
I heard that!

bBob starts to take off his shirt.

ASSISTANT  
Uh, bBob, please leave your shirt on.  
This is a family show. Also, could  
you please put that...thing...

Assistant is referencing bBob's Mystical Sphere.

ASSISTANT (cont.)  
...somewhere?

bBOB  
This Sphere has to remain close to  
me. If we were to become separated,  
there would be consequences, grave  
consequences.

ASSISTANT  
We? Whatever.

She starts walking away filming with her tablet

ASSISTANT (cont.)  
(quietly)  
We're about to enter the control  
room, the nerve center of our  
broadcasts.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Deshwa'an is at the board and the Assistant walks in, still filming with her tablet.

ASSISTANT  
This might not be where the magic happens, but it's where it gets directed so you Compulsives...

DESHWA'AN  
Are you still doing that? Is that live?

ASSISTANT  
What?  
(stops filming)  
No, I'm still producing segments for the website, but after Idora's little announcement we're taking a break from live content, at least until we can get a handle on things.  
(chuckling)  
It's not like we're producing a reality show.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

Assistant is pitching her idea of a reality show to Portia and Frank while Portia and Frank are more concerned with texting on their respective phones. There are a lot of boxes of Durian Detox stacked everywhere with RMA numbers on them. Assistant's monologue essentially becomes a voice over for all the texting.

ASSISTANT  
It's just an extension of what we promised people if they joined Club Compulsive. Everybody gets the backstage story, but we try to spice it up a bit.

PORTIA  
Spice it up?

FRANK  
(distracted,  
texting)  
So you're saying build on or manufacture discord?

ASSISTANT  
Well, I don't think we have to  
manufacture anything. I mean  
sometimes we all get into little  
arguments.

We hear Portia's text ring.

INSERT

We see a close up of Portia's phone.

TEXT FROM FRANK  
Ernesto's after work?

PORTIA TEXT  
(typing)  
Sounds Yummy! I (heart symbol) their  
clam sauce. (happy emoticons).

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

We hear Frank's text ring and he reads the text while  
commenting on Assistant's idea.

FRANK  
So you're saying we do behind the  
scenes stuff, loud arguments, the  
director screaming at talent, that  
sort of thing?

We hear Portia's text ring

INSERT

We see Portia's phone.

TEXT FROM FRANK  
Later we can head over to my place  
--- I've got some sauce for your  
clam! Sides, I've been practicing a  
new position. (leering emoticon)

PORTIA TEXT  
(Portia types)  
New position? You almost wore me out  
last time! (embarrassed emoji)

We hear Frank's text ring.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

FRANK

(to Assistant)  
We would need to keep the cost down.

ASSISTANT

Sure, that's the beauty of it. We use outtakes and footage from our phones and tablets. Then we just have to load them onto our site. It will hardly cost anything.

We hear Portia's text ring.

INSERT

Close up of Portia's phone.

TEXT FROM FRANK

It's called the Leipzig Thrust.  
(winking emojis) It's like the dancing frog position, but there's an extra twist! (tongue out emoji)

PORTIA TEXT

(Portia types)  
Can't wait!!!!!! (Many excited emojis)

We hear Frank's text ring

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

ASSISTANT

(still going)  
Maybe we could even have a section on the site where we could ask our Compulsives what kinds of things they would like to see. I think it would make them feel that they are an even bigger part of the network.

INSERT

We see a close up of Portia's phone.

PORTIA TEXT

(Portia types)  
What is she droning on about now?  
(Confused emojis)

We hear Frank's text ring

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

ASSISTANT

And we can do some click-through ads,  
nothing random, we would want to make  
it both tasteful and targeted.

We hear Portia's text ring

INSERT

We see a close up of Portia's phone.

TEXT FROM FRANK

She's going on about the website.  
She wants to do some sort of reality  
show or something? People yelling  
and screaming at each other? (More  
confused emojis)

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

ASSISTANT

This revenue stream would cost us  
next to nothing and once we get our  
Compulsives into this ad ecosystem,  
we can leverage...

FRANK

(distracted)

Hmm? Well yes, I like the increased  
revenue from the click-throughs, but  
all that negativity runs counter to  
our destination as a happy home.

PORTIA

I agree. Our shoppers have to feel  
rewarded by visiting our network or  
our site. I don't like the  
negativity.

FRANK

Right. I can see that dragging this  
into your typical reality show might  
give us some short term benefits, a  
one time bump if you will, but in the  
long run I think it would bruise our  
corporate identity.

PORTIA

Absolutely, this doesn't feel right. Though did you mention increased ad revenue? That could show some promise. But I'm not sold on it for now. Who would even manage this?

ASSISTANT

I could do it. Well some of it. I mean I can't code or anything, but it's pretty easy to upload files onto the site. Maybe with a little help from IT...

We hear Portia's text ring

INSERT

We see a close up of Portia's phone.

TEXT FROM FRANK

Let's table it for now, but tell her to continue getting raw footage.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

PORTIA

I, we, appreciate the ideas, and while these ideas don't necessarily fit with the higher level integrity of the network, I appreciate you thinking outside the box. But frankly, this isn't the right climate to pursue something like this. We may be able to revisit this a little later, so in the meantime, just continue to shoot what you can, when you can, OK?

(condescending  
smile)

Now if you don't mind, Frank and I were in the middle of something...

We hear Portia's text ring

INSERT

We see a Close up of Portia's phone.

TEXT FROM FRANK  
Found it - Check it out!  
[www.deviant~sexualpositions.com/  
advanced/leipzigthrust.html](http://www.deviant~sexualpositions.com/advanced/leipzigthrust.html)

Portia clicks on the link.

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - DAY

We see a shocked expression on Portia's face.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
But didn't you pitch that idea to  
Frank and Portia? Didn't they both  
pass on it?

ASSISTANT  
Well yes and no. I think they were a  
bit distracted. But hey, a little  
spontaneity can't hurt, right?  
(pointing to her  
tablet)  
Check it out, we got a ton of  
comments on our site after Idora's  
little announcement.

INSERT

Close up of YCSN's website

We briefly see comments ranging from Congrats to people  
slagging her (Slut and worse). Lots of emojis.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

ASSISTANT  
I tried to get her to do a follow up  
post but so far she's refusing.

DESHWA'AN  
(into mic)  
Cue the intro music. Kill the A/C.  
OK.

Deshwa'an sings to the tune Let's Get Physical.

DESHWA'AN (cont.)  
 Let's get mystical, mystical...  
 (into mic)  
 ...in Lima, Apat, Tatlo, Dalawa,  
 Isa...

INT. STUDIO - DAY

ON SCREEN

bBob the mystic is cradling his Mystical Sphere in his hands.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "bBOB's MYSTICAL POWER SPHERE ITEM  
 BBMPS2003 \$129.13"

bBOB  
 Is my name bBob? Or maybe it isn't  
 my real name, but that doesn't  
 matter, does it? What are names,  
 what are labels? Do we let them  
 define us or do we define them? It  
 also doesn't matter where I'm from,  
 does it? Consider me a citizen of  
 all worlds, this one and the ones  
 (grand gesture)  
 beyond. The next thing I'm going to  
 say might surprise you: I'm not here  
 to sell you anything.  
 (chuckles)  
 That's right. Put down that phone  
 and put away your credit card.  
 Because I'm here to help you achieve  
 your potential and realize inner  
 peace. How?

bBob opens his hands and reveals a white sphere the size of  
 softball with a screen on one third of its surface.

bBOB (cont.)  
 With this? What is it? Is it a  
 charger for all your portable  
 devices? Is it a source of healing  
 energy? Will it start your car?  
 Will it realign your spine?

(MORE)

bBOB (cont.)  
 Will it keep food fresh for days and  
 tighten the flabby skin under your  
 arms? Will it make your white  
 clothes glisten in sun? Listen? Do  
 you hear that?

We hear a very low hum.

bBOB (cont.)  
 Will the vibrations emanating from  
 this calm pets and children? I am  
 not bragging when I say that I know  
 things. I know that some of you are  
 suffering very deeply, you consider  
 yourself Compulsives and you think  
 you can only be cured by buying  
 things. But you know what? This  
 just might be the last thing you ever  
 buy.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
 (into mic)  
 Whoa, my man, hold on there, that  
 sounds a little ominous.

Deshwa'an puts his hand over the mic and looks over at the  
 Assistant.

DESHWA'AN (cont.)  
 Is it just me or is he creepier than  
 usual?

ASSISTANT  
 Who, bBob? I don't know. I did hear  
 that Portia spends time at his  
 retreat in Taos.

DESHWA'AN  
 So it's some kind of trade deal?

ASSISTANT  
 (shrugs)  
 Beats me.

DESHWA'AN  
 So what's he selling? Can we get a  
 close up of it?

ASSISTANT

(hurriedly)

No, I had to promise bBob that we won't get too tight on the Sphere. He says it will ruin the mystery.

DESHWA'AN

Reveal the bullshit is more like it.

DRONE POV

Idora and Manager Fu are in front of an elevator. They both are carrying a number of boxes.

MANAGER FU

(to Idora)

Going Down? What'cha got there?

IDORA

Yeah, I'm taking some PR Packets home. It's easier to sign photos and stuff there when I'm not distracted.

(to Manager Fu)

You look loaded down too, what's in all those boxes?

MANAGER FU

Product Samples. I've got a meeting downtown with a warehouse and shipping company. It's that time of year again, we're trying to see if we can renegotiate current contracts or sign up new vendors.

IDORA

I thought that was Frank's job.

MANAGER FU

It was, I mean it is, but he, uh, he wanted me to have the experience. Besides, he's real busy. I think he's keeping the larger deals for himself, but he's allowing me to get my feet wet.

The elevator arrives and they both step in.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

IDORA  
 (sheepishly)  
 You know, I get a little panicky in  
 elevators.  
 (hastily)  
 Sometimes, not all the time.

MANAGER FU  
 It's a little embarrassing for me to  
 admit, but, well...me too. That's  
 OK, because look what I've got here!

Manager Fu reveals a HELM bag on top of the pile of boxes  
 she's carrying.

IDORA  
 (disbelieving)  
 Really?

MANAGER FU  
 What, you've never...

IDORA  
 It's silly. It's for...them. The  
 buyers, not us. We're sellers, we're  
 supposed to be immune to that stuff.

MANAGER FU  
 That doesn't sound like you, Idora.  
 That sounds more like something  
 Portia or Frank would say.

IDORA  
 Well you have to admit that it's hard  
 to take something like that  
 seriously. I mean elevator safety,  
 what's up with that?

MANAGER FU  
 But doesn't it make sense to be  
 prepared?

IDORA  
 For what? Everything? Girl, they  
 don't make a bag big enough for that.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

ON SCREEN

bBob continues his segment. There are projections on the set, a cross between psychedelic patterns and a screen saver.

We hear the sound of waves crashing against the shore and the cry of gulls.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "bBOB's MYSTICAL POWER SPHERE ITEM  
BBMPS2003 \$329.13"

bBOB

How can I know all these things?  
(chuckling)  
Well I may have had a checkered  
career, but I've finished my homework  
and turned it in on time. Time?  
I've spent my time with visionaries.  
I don't mean to namedrop, but...I  
turned on with Leary and Alpert in  
Harvard. I sang protest songs with  
Patrick Sky. I've done the Lucky  
Lindy Hop with Hauptmann and  
jitterbugged with the Kenosha Kid.  
I've helped unlock the long-standing  
secrets presented by the Trees of  
Mystery and brought a sense of peace,  
calm, and clarity to Confusion Hill.  
I have spoken with dolphins in the  
Gulf of Mexico. What's that, you  
ask? What did they say? Of course  
they said:

bBOB makes squealing and clicking dolphin noises while  
flapping his wrist like flippers.

bBOB (cont.)  
(conspiratorial  
whisper)

I played the World Game with Bucky  
Fuller in the back of a Dymaxion. On  
a deep level, I understand  
Synergetics.

bBob sings vaguely to the tune "Get Together"

bBOB (cont.)  
 Attention Humanoids,  
 Agglomerate now,  
 Closest packed - omni-tangentially,  
 Around one central nuclear sphere!

INSERT

We see a Skype window opens up on right side of screen. In this window, we see an older hippie-type woman named HAPPY. Happy has long gray hair, jewelry and Granny Glasses.

HAPPY  
 Hi bBOB!

bBOB  
 What?  
 (hand to earbud)  
 What sorcery is this?

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
 (into mic)  
 Relax. It's a caller, we're  
 interactive here. Just talk to them,  
 if it gets out of hand we can cut  
 them off, OK?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

ON SCREEN

bBOB continues the segment with Happy in the Skype window.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "bBOB's MYSTICAL POWER SPHERE ITEM  
 BBMPS2003 \$329.13

bBOB  
 OK, I understand that we're being  
 joined by a caller, or as I like to  
 call them, a b-seeker.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
(To himself)  
B-Seeker, B-zerker. Potato, Potawto.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

ON SCREEN

bBOB continues the segment with Happy in the Skype window.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "bBOB's MYSTICAL POWER SPHERE ITEM  
BBMPS2003 \$329.13"

bBOB  
Hi there, b-seeker, what's your name?

HAPPY  
I'm Happy.

bBOB  
That's swell, so am I.

HAPPY  
No, I mean, that's my name. Happy.

bBOB  
That's great! I'm bBob! Where are  
you calling from, Happy?

HAPPY  
Council Bluffs, Iowa, bBob. I'm  
calling from Council Bluffs. I'm in  
the courthouse.

Happy leans in close to the screen and whispers

HAPPY (cont.)  
Jury duty. It's lunchtime and we've  
got the TV in the break room set to  
you right now.

bBOB  
You know what? I think that's pretty  
neat.

(MORE)

bBOB (cont.)

I know you can't tell me anything about the case, but do you think they're guilty?

HAPPY

I'm not sure I can...

bBOB

Just kidding, Happy!

HAPPY

(relieved laugh)

bBOB

Listen, Happy, are you concerned with getting your chakra aligned?

HAPPY

Am I? Only like all the time.

(embarrassed)

Friends say I bring it up too much.

bBOB

Nonsense. You can't bring it up too much. That's like having too much ice cream. Can you have too much ice cream, Happy?

HAPPY

Uh, I don't know.

bBOB

Happy, Happy, Happy. Admit it, admit that it's simply not possible!

HAPPY

OK! I'll try it a little later.

Happy leans into the Skype camera.

HAPPY

I don't have a lot of time.

bBOB

None of us do, at least on this plane. Other planes and other membranes? Who really knows?

HAPPY

But can you tell me about the sphere? The Sphere! Do I really need it?

bBOB  
Need? That's not the question you  
should be asking. You should be  
asking yourself this question: "How  
have I lived my life up until now  
without it?"

HAPPY  
(happy squeal)

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

We hear Deshwa'an's phone calendar notification tone. He  
looks at his phone with dismay.

DESHWA'AN  
Aw ~~shit~~!

ASSISTANT  
What? Is he taking off his clothes  
again?

DESHWA'AN  
What? No, I almost forgot about the  
fire drill. It happens in a minute  
or so.  
(to Assistant)  
Can you check with Shirley and make  
sure that the studio doors are secure  
and we're not going to have the  
alarm...

We hear a loud fire alarm which continues under the  
following scenes.

DESHWA'AN (cont.)  
~~Fuck~~.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

ON SCREEN

bBOB continues the segment with Happy in the Skype window.  
The alarm is causing bBob a great deal of distress.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "bBOB's MYSTICAL POWER SPHERE ITEM  
BBMPS2003 \$329.13"

bBOB  
Ow, my ears, my delicate ears! Oh  
oh, b-seekers. This is bad! The  
sound, it's from them! Awk!  
(removing his  
earbud)  
I can't be wired when they take me!

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
(into mic)  
Calm down double B-man, it's just a  
fire drill, we'll get the noise  
stopped.  
(to Assistant)  
Can you text Maricio and tell him to  
shut off this ~~God damn~~ alarm?

ASSISTANT  
Maricio?  
(looks far away)

We hear a Mexican trumpet fanfare.

DESHWA'AN  
What? Hey, snap out of it, tell him  
to, oh crap, it's too late.  
(into mic)  
Mr. bBob, can you hear me? Please,  
for the love of God keep your...  
(to Assistant)  
Isn't he wearing an earbud?

ASSISTANT  
He just took it out...I think he's  
preparing for a close encounter. Or  
something.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

ON SCREEN

bBOB continues the segment with Happy in the Skype window. He is now naked from the waist up and freaking out.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "bBOB's MYSTICAL POWER SPHERE ITEM  
BBMPS2003 \$329.13"

bBOB

Do you hear that? That's not a happy sound, Happy.

HAPPY

Yes, bBob, I have to agree and now, I mean, yes, I can hear it. That sounds scary! What's going on?

bBOB

(looking into  
camera)

You out there, you hear it too? That sound! No, that's not coming from us, that's coming from them! They're telling us to prepare ourselves for ascension! We must divest ourselves of all worldly trappings.

bBOB proceeds to take off his jewelry and then the rest of his clothes.

bBOB (cont.)

It's a message for Happy and everyone who's not, and that includes all the rest of you at home! You must join me, wherever you are, you need to remove the shackles that society has imposed upon you since shortly after you were born. Babies are born naked and free. We must emulate them. We must be free and to really be free...

Happy starts removing her clothes in her window

HAPPY

I'm with you bBOB, I'm with you!

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
(slapping his  
forehead)  
Fuck me.  
(into mic)  
Pixels, we need pixels!

INT. STUDIO - DAY

ON SCREEN

bBOB continues the segment with Happy in the Skype window. He is now naked while Happy starts to remove her clothes as well.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "bBOB's MYSTICAL POWER SPHERE ITEM  
BBMPS2003 \$329.13"

bBOB  
...we must be totally  
NUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUDDDDDDDEEEEEEE!

bBOB starts a disjointed dance clothed only in the appropriate pixelation (and apparently he has a very large appendage as the pixelation goes down to his knees). A semi-nude Happy starts dancing as well until a large county sheriff gets her in a hammerlock and shuts her laptop.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Idora and Manager Fu are in the elevator which comes to a crashing halt. The lights go flicker and low wattage emergency lighting comes on.

We hear the fire alarm in the distant background.

MANAGER FU  
You have got to be kidding me.

She tries pushing the emergency button but nothing happens.

IDORA  
 (freaking a little)  
 What's happening?

MANAGER FU  
 Huh? Oh, I think it's, yeah, it's  
 nothing. It's just the fire drill.

Despite her outward calm, Manager Fu continues to push the  
 emergency button.

MANAGER FU (cont.)  
 Didn't you get the email?

IDORA  
 That's today? Crapples! I forgot!

MANAGER FU  
 Yeah, me too, I totally spaced it.  
 We should have taken the stairs, even  
 if it is a long way down.  
 (looks at phone)  
 No signal. What about you?

Idora already has her phone out.

IDORA  
 Nothing.  
 (a little panicky)  
 What do we do?

MANAGER FU  
 Calm down  
 (thinking)  
 Let's see what the good people at  
 HELM can do.

Manager Fu starts opening a HELM AB-1 box.

IDORA  
 That's your plan? Seriously?

MANAGER FU  
 Why?

PORTIA  
 Why? Because it's useless, that's  
 why.

MANAGER FU  
 What do you mean 'it's useless'?

IDORA

Manager Fu, I've been selling those stupid bags since I started here. I already know what's inside them and there isn't anything in there that is going to help us right now.

Manager Fu takes a whistle out of the box.

MANAGER FU

Well, there's a whistle, that's good right? Saves us from screaming and losing our voices, yeah?

Manager Fu blows the whistle a couple of times and then reaches into the bag and takes out a small bottle [the size of a five-hour energy drink]).

MANAGER FU (cont.)

What's this?

IDORA

Y-Teixna.

MANAGER FU

What?

IDORA

(slower)

Y-Teixna.

(regular pace)

It's anxiety backwards, get it? Like it's an anti-anxiety drink. It's sold in these little bottles like an energy drink. It's supposed to be a natural Xanax-like product. Totally safe, I think it's based on Kava, Chamomile, Passionflower and Bergamot oil. That little bottle is like a week's worth if I remember right. I tried it once and it worked pretty well, but I don't think I should... you know, based on my condition.

MANAGER FU

Y-Teixna, huh?

Manager Fu downs the entire bottle.

MANAGER FU (cont.)

Yeah, about that...did you, I mean was this...

She points at Idora's belly.

MANAGER FU (cont.)  
...planned?

She takes a large piece of cloth out of the HELM bag.

MANAGER FU (cont.)  
And what's up with this?

IDORA  
Planned? Huh, not even. Can you  
keep a secret?

MANAGER FU  
Of course.  
(slightly ironic)  
We're elevator besties, right?

IDORA  
I guess. Yeah, well I screwed up big  
time. I've been keeping it a secret  
but I've been dying to tell somebody.  
We're you here when we had the  
Halloween in July party? We were  
pushing a promo for that stupid  
animated monster movie, Preying  
Mantids...

EXT. TOKYO SKYLINE - NIGHT

Silhouetted by the city in flames are two anime style  
characters SHINJU and KOJOI. This is a brief clip from the  
movie "PREYING MANTIDS".

KOJI  
(astonished)  
The radiation, it's made the Mantids  
a thousand times larger.

SHINJU  
Koji, I don't like the looks of them.

KOJI  
What do you mean? Ugly? Angry?

SHINJU  
No, hungry!

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Idora and Manager Fu are still in the darkened elevator.

We hear the fire alarm in the background.

IDORA

We all were wearing those stupid  
masks and were drinking shots...

INT. YCSN OFFICE - NIGHT

We see the Halloween in July party. Everyone is wearing a praying mantis hat/mask. Idora (in a mask as well) is downing a shot while the throng chants: mantids, mantids, mantids, mantids!

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Idora and Manager Fu are still in the darkened elevator.

We hear the fire alarm in the background.

MANAGER FU

Mantids?

IDORA

What? It's the plural for Mantis.  
Believe me, that was just the tip of  
the iceberg when it came to how bad  
that movie was. We had some kind of  
deal with the studio and part of the  
deal was those awful masks. We had a  
whole promo kit, I guess it was the  
sort of stuff that the studios used  
to give it away, but all that stuff  
has got value, right? Everybody  
keeps everything these days and sells  
it on ebay a few weeks later. So the  
studio basically packaged a bunch of  
freebies and threw them into a box.  
Item USPM2222, isn't that a trip, I  
can still remember the item number.  
Can't remember the price, though.

Idora finally looks at the object in Manager Fu's hand

IDORA (cont.)

That's an adult diaper.

MANAGER FU

Ewe!

Manager Fu tosses it on the elevator floor.

IDORA

Yeah, I know.

Manager Fu reaches into the HELM bag and takes out a small plastic package.

MANAGER FU

So, and forgive me if you don't feel like talking about it, but you're saying that...it happened here at the network? Masks and all? And what's this?

IDORA

Hmm? Well it's either a space blanket or a modesty curtain.

MANAGER FU

Modesty...?

IDORA

I guess so you can put the diaper on?  
(crestfallen)  
I don't know.

MANAGER FU

OK. So, can I ask you something?  
Who is...

IDORA

(softly)  
I don't know.

MANAGER FU

What?

IDORA

I don't know! I got super drunk at that stupid party and we were all wearing those stupid masks so I really don't know who...it was. I mean I'm not like that, I'm generally pretty together, you know? But that night, I just...I don't know, I just lost it. I mean I was enjoying myself, you know? I remember that I was...I was being pretty aggressive.

MANAGER FU

(after a beat)

So...jeeze, I don't quite know how to say it, but...are you keeping it?

IDORA

What? Oh, God yes. Yes! There's... there's no question...

Manager Fu slumps into a comfortable cross-legged seating position. The Y-Teixna is starting to kick in.

MANAGER FU

Really? I would think...nevermind.

MANAGER FU (cont.)

(yawns and smiles)

So you're saying that the father is somebody who works here at the network?

Manager Fu reaches into the HELM bag and takes out what looks like a small box with a wire.

IDORA

Maybe. Or maybe a vendor, supplier, courier, you name it. There were a lot of people at that party. Like I said, we were all wearing those stupid masks.

Idora points to the the object in Manager Fu's hand.

IDORA (cont.)

That's called a cell booster, it's supposed to boost the range...

MANAGER FU

How does it...? Do you plug it in?

IDORA

No, you just hold it next to your phone.

MANAGER FU

(no anxiety here)

Like this? Wait a sec, it actually works.

(happy)

I've got two bars!

INSERT

Close up of Manager Fu's phone as she texts Deshwa'an (HOMEBOY on her phone).

MANAGER FU TEXT

Hey we're stuk in elevator can u get  
somebodyto get us our?  
Ouy.  
out.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

We hear Deshwa'an's text ring ("Fight the Power!").

We hear the fire alarm, louder than in the elevator.  
Deshwa'an is on his mic and the Assistant is on the phone.

INSERT

We see a close up of Deshwa'an's phone as he answers the text.

DESHWA'AN TEXT

busy now talrnt freaking we've  
already tried to reach Maricio it's  
the stuoid fierdrill hang tit  
Tight Damn Hang Tight -D

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Idora and Manager Fu are still in the darkened elevator.

We hear the fire alarm in the background.

We hear Manager Fu's text tone. She quickly scans the text and looks at Idora.

MANAGER FU

It's going to be OK, it's the fire  
drill like we thought. It sounds  
like they've already got in contact  
with building maintenance, so we  
should be OK.

INSERT

Close up on Manager Fu's phone as she texts back to "HOMEBOY".

## MANAGER FU TEXT

Talked to Idora. OMG! She doesn't know who the daddy is! (Shocked emoji) Says it was somebody here at work (Scream emoji)

## INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

We hear Deshwa'an's text tone, but Deshwa'an ignores it.

## DESHWA'AN

What a freakin' mess. We gotta, we gotta get this cleaned up.

(to Assistant)

Do we have anything canned we can air?

## ASSISTANT

I don't know. You wanna go stale? OK, your call.

Assistant sits in front of a computer keyboard and types rapidly. She's scanning the file management system looking for a older segment they can broadcast.

## ASSISTANT (cont.)

Alright, I got it, some of this might be a couple of years old and it's pretty raw. Ah, let me make the filenames a little bigger...OK. Um...Tightrope for dummies? Is it edible?

## DESHWA'AN

What?

## ASSISTANT

I don't know, I think that's the name of the show. Is it edible? Right, OK, I'll pass.

## DESHWA'AN

We need something, I dunno, relaxing. Normal. We're pushing 100 on the crazy scale, we want to dial it back to 30 something, right? So let's find us a show, the more boring the better!

## ASSISTANT

How about this one? "Nice Luggage!".

DESHWA'AN

That's it? Nice Luggage? What the hell, sounds benign enough. Sure, anything at this point.

(into mic)

Cue Nice...Luggage in ive-fay, our-fay, ee-thrry, oo-tay, un-ay....

INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

INSERT

ON SCREEN

We see a pre-recorded program called "Nice Luggage!" featuring BARBARA VOLK. Barbara is a conservatively dressed woman who speaks very slow, but there is something oddly seductive about her tone of voice and the way she caresses various pieces of luggage. The set has many examples of suitcases, briefcases, handbags, backpacks etc. strewn about.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "NICE LUGGAGE! WITH BARBARA VOLK"

BARBARA

(waving)

Hi Compulsives. This is Barbara again, and welcome to another segment of Nice Luggage! On this show, we'll take a look at some luggage that I think is really...nice! How about this, it's designed just like a famous brand, you all know which one, right? Starts with an H?

(pause)

Just look at it. What a beauty! It's the WaterTight Free 20, it's a twenty inch Spinning Carry-On.

Barbara spins it and coos seductively.

BARBARA (cont.)

Ooooo! You'd expect to pay close to five hundred dollars for a piece like this!

(MORE)

BARBARA (cont.)

But you can get this today from YCSN with a matching four inch attache in aluminum, loud brass, brilliant blue or classic black for less than two hundred dollars. That's right, both pieces can be yours for just \$199.99.

She pauses and runs her hand seductively over the case.

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "NICE LUGGAGE! WITH BARBARA VOLK WATERTIGHT FREE CARRY ON, WTF20-020 \$185.13 plus S&H"

BARBARA (cont.)

What do you think, Compulsives?

(winks)

I'll tell you what I think. I think that this is some really *nice* luggage...

INT. STUDIO - DAY

We hear the alarm (very loud)going off.

The studio has been completely trashed by bBOB. bBOB has dropped the sphere and is wearing a piece of plastic as a poncho (a HELM modesty curtain with the name HELM prominently displayed upside down) and is brandishing a fire extinguisher. He periodically lets loose with a blast from the extinguisher, keeping people at bay.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN

(to himself)

We'll at least we know the fire extinguishers work.

(into the mic)

Where the hell is security?

(to Assistant)

How long does this bag segment last?

ASSISTANT

Nice Luggage?

(stares at screen)

Two hours, I think.

DESHWA'AN

Good lord, two hours of this?

Where's my gun?

(into mic)

People, we don't have much time,  
we've got to get this lunatic removed  
and and get this set cleaned up for

(looks at his

tablet)

Jonas, he's next up doing his miracle  
weave hair extensions segment. Let's  
go, people!

DRONE POV

The drone is hovering near the front desk. Suze is standing next to the desk along with Frank, Portia and some other network people. The fire alarm is continuing. Two large security guards are escorting bBob off the premises. Suze and Frank are staring at the scene while Portia is oblivious.

PORTIA

(to Frank)

Let's take the stairs.

(to Suze)

We've got an...appointment, we have a  
meeting with a supplier.

Frank nudges her and Portia shoots a glare back at him.

PORTA (cont.)

If they're calling in on the phone  
network, go ahead and transfer it  
into my voicemail, I'll pick up  
messages after the meeting, OK? Come  
along, Frank, we'll be late.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

The alarm stops and Portia and Frank start to leave.

FRANK

Finally, that was getting a little  
annoying.

PORTIA

You wouldn't be saying that if it was  
a real fire.

PORTIA (cont.)  
We have to put up with these things,  
Frank. It's called life.

The two leave toward the elevators.

FRANK  
Well I'm just happy we don't have to  
take the damn stairs.

We hear Portia's phone ring.

PORTIA  
(into phone)  
Hello? What? Arnie? I can't hear  
you...what? Can you do something  
about that damn bluetooth? What? No  
that's better. Are you serious?  
When? Now? I've got an...OK, I'll  
be there in an hour. What? Then I  
have to get my lawyer as well. No,  
don't start without me. Yes, I know  
the place, OK fine.  
(hangs up)

FRANK  
That was Arnie? What does he want?

PORTIA  
(furious)  
He wants to divorce me and sue me for  
my share of the network. He's  
claiming managerial incompetence.  
The clam sauce will have to wait, I  
have to take care of this.

FRANK  
Well, we have to put up with these  
things, it's called...

PORTIA  
Frank?

FRANK  
Yeah?

PORTIA  
Shut the ~~fuck~~ up.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

The alarm stops, the elevator light comes back on and the car resumes it's trip down.

MANAGER FU  
(Y-Teixna aided)  
That wasn't so bad!

IDORA  
Thank God. Listen, Manager Fu. Can you do me a favor? Don't let everybody know about...you know. The circumstances.

Manager Fu responds by giving a sloppy sealed lips pantomime.

MANAGER FU  
Don't worry, that's just between us...Ah shoot.

IDORA  
Something wrong?

MANAGER FU  
I've got to head back up. I need another HELM bag. I couldn't pack all this stuff back into the bag if I tried.

The elevator stops one the ground floor and the door opens.

MANAGER FU (cont.)  
Take care, Idora. Happy Selling!

Idora realizes Manager Fu is more than a little out of it but she returns the Happy Gesture.

IDORA  
Thanks.

Idora leaves the elevator as Manager Fu stands up and dusts herself off and presses the floor for the YCSN offices.

MANAGER FU  
(to herself)  
Crap, I've got to talk to Deshwa'an. I have to tell him...something.

The elevator doors close and it starts its ascent.

MANAGER FU (cont.)  
What was it? I'm supposed to...oh yeah.

(MORE)

MANAGER FU (cont.)  
(smiles)  
I'm not supposed to tell him  
something.

She absently hums to herself as the elevator comes to a stop. When the doors open she starts to leave and literally runs into Portia and Frank.

MANAGER FU (cont.)  
Portia, Mr. Trucchi!

With a nod of her head and a slight giggle she gives Portia and Frank the Happy Gesture.

MANAGER FU (cont.)  
Happy Happy!

Manager Fu leaves and Portia and Frank enter the elevator.

PORTIA  
What was that all about? Was Manager  
Fu high on something?

The elevator doors close and they embrace.

FRANK  
What do we care?

PORTIA  
We don't have much time.

Frank turns off the elevator in between floors and waves the HELM modesty blanket at Portia.

FRANK  
Do we have enough time to join the  
15th and a half floor club?

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

Deshwa'an is sitting at a table drinking coffee and is working on drawing something on a piece of paper. Lizbeth Farnoux (looking somewhat feral) is in the background stealing ketchup packages. The Assistant walks in, nods toward Deshwa'an and joins him.

ASSISTANT  
Mind a little company?

DESHWA'AN

(distracted)

What? Oh, yeah, no. Have a seat.  
Who's minding the store?

ASSISTANT

Nobody, I mean we're kind of on auto-pilot and there's still a good

(looks at phone)

fifty minutes of the bag lady. We're cool. That was crazy, right?

Deshwa'an nods, still engrossed in his paper project.

ASSISTANT (cont.)

Were you there when the loony bin patrol were able to hit bBOB with a tranq dart and carted him out of the studio? Well now the place is an absolute mess and I think we ran out of paper towels, so Lorenzo made a run to Costco to get some cleaning supplies. There's also a problem with the studio door locks, they're supposed to reset after a fire but I don't think they're working right. I have a call in to have them serviced.

DESHWA'AN

We'll probably have to move everything over to Studio B.

ASSISTANT

Makes sense.

(looks at Deshwa'ans  
paper)

What do you got there?

DESHWA'AN

This? It's a pool.

ASSISTANT

A pool? You mean like for the Super Bowl or something?

Manger Fu enters, gets a bottle of water and waves to Deshwa'an, rushing over to join him. Deshwa'an waves back and then turns back to the Assistant.

DESHWA'AN

Sure, something like that.  
But this doesn't have anything to do with Sports.

ASSISTANT

Really?

DESHWA'AN

Yup.

(leans in)

It's the "Who's the daddy?" pool?  
Want in? Twenty bucks a square.

ASSISTANT

Who's the daddy? I don't get it.

DESHWA'AN

You know. Idora's surprise?

Manager Fu takes a seat beside Deshwa'an and is still a little loopy. She tries to say something for his ears only but it winds up a little too loud.

MANAGER FU

Hey Homeboy.

ASSISTANT

What?

DESHWA'AN

(to Assistant)

It's a joke, an inside...don't mind her...

MANAGER FU

What'chu got there? A pool?

ASSISTANT

(to Manager Fu)

He says it's the "Who's the daddy?" pool. Twenty bucks a square.

MANAGER FU

For Idora?

(laughs)

That's funny, right, 'cause we don't know who the daddy is.

(to Deshwa'an)

And I shouldn't have told you what I told you earlier, about the...you know.

(points to the pool)

ASSISTANT

(to Deshwa'an)

You can't play, right?

(MORE)

ASSISTANT (cont.)  
You already know who it is?

MANAGER FU  
I don't think anybody knows who it is.

DESHWA'AN  
(to Assistant)  
No, I'm not playing and don't have a clue.

MANAGER FU  
(leaning on  
Deshwa'an a little)  
I don't think anybody has a...

Deshwa'an tries to gently nudge her away a bit and cuts her off.

DESHWA'AN  
(sotto voce)  
That's enough ZhenZhen...

ASSISTANT  
Homeboy? ZhenZhen? What's up with you two?

DESHWA'AN and MANAGER FU  
Nothing. We're just...it's just... nothing.

ASSISTANT  
Sure.

DESHWA'AN  
(changing the  
subject)  
So what about it? Are you in?  
Twenty bucks a square. That's four  
hundred bucks if you win?

ASSISTANT  
(warming to the  
idea)  
Really?

DESHWA'AN  
Sure. We've got every possibility we  
could think of.

ASSISTANT  
Are you on it? I mean are you a  
square?

DESHWA'AN

What? No.

(looks at Manager  
Fu)

I mean No! Anyway, right now we don't have any of the squares assigned. That's not how it works. And even when we do, assign names to the squares I mean, I won't be on it, for two reasons. One, it's my pool, at least I started the thing. Two, it wasn't me.

ASSISTANT

Says you.

DESHWA'AN

Sure, says me. But you've got my solemn word on this. I'll admit that Idora is attractive enough but she isn't my type. But we've got the building super, Frank, Jaimie the Fast/Express Big Package Guy...

ASSISTANT

How do you know it wasn't somebody outside of work?

MANAGER FU

It wasn't somebody outside of work. I mean, not technically...

ASSISTANT

So you know?  
(leans in)  
Who was it?

Manger Fu gives the same sloppy lips sealed gesture she gave Idora.

MANAGER FU

I can't tell. I mean I don't know. I mean...I'm late, I've got to get to a meeting.

(to Deshwa'an)

See you later? Uh, about that thing?

DESHWA'AN

That thing? Ah, right, yeah. Text me when you're done, I've got another couple of hours here. Later.

ASSISTANT  
You two, really?

DESHWA'AN  
What? No...

ASSISTANT  
(shakes her head)  
OK, but what if you're wrong? What  
if nobody wins?

DESHWA'AN  
What? Well, I don't see that  
happening, but  
(thinking)  
if it turns out that the daddy isn't  
in the pool, then we either throw a  
nice party or give everybody refunds.

ASSISTANT  
I think it should be a refund.

DESHWA'AN  
OK, if there's no winner, we refund.  
So, what do you say?

He spreads his arms wide and gives her a big grin.

DESHWA'AN (cont.)  
Twenty bucks a square...you know you  
want to, so come on. Who's the  
daddy?

DRONE POV

Amid the absolute mess of clothes, wires and fire  
extinguisher foam a light emanating from bBOB's Mystical  
Sphere pulses bright red.

We hear an annoying electronic (ring modulated) countdown  
noise.

The pulsing continues for a few seconds and stops.

BLACK OUT

We hear a big explosion.

INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

ON SCREEN

Barbara Volk is surrounded by baggage as before.

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Lower left text box: "NICE LUGGAGE! WITH BARBARA VOLK"

INSERT

Crawl at bottom of screen: "NICE LUGGAGE! ANDRE CORSE  
EXPANDABLE CARRY-ON WITH BALLOON INSERTS NLAC3232B \$79.67  
PLUS SHIPPING AND HANDLING"

BARBARA

I love this piece. This is made out  
of a memory formed plastic with the  
leatherette bellows. It actually  
expands to carry four times its  
interior space. Four times! I don't  
know how they do it. It's like magic.  
And It's under 80 dollars. Save the  
checked bag fees, you can fit it all  
in the overhead compartment, where  
the case will begin to expand taking  
up space and preventing others from  
using your overhead bin. Andre Corse  
has been making fine travel cases for  
over 150 years and they just may have  
outdone themselves. You know what I  
think? Of course you do!

Barbara smiles and scrunches her face.

BARBARA (cont.)

I think that this is some real nice  
luggage!

BLACK OUT

CREDITS

SONG: PEPPY K-POP 강박 구매자 (The Obsessive Shopper)

SINGER

(shouted)  
I'm compulsive!  
(MORE)

SINGER (cont.)

(singing)

Sometimes I'm angry  
 Sometimes I'm sad  
 But I've got a secret  
 Something always makes me happy

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요  
 나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요  
 쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요  
 나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

Sometimes I feel sick  
 Sometimes I feel blue  
 But I've got a secret  
 I'm always happy shopping

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요  
 나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요  
 쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요  
 나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

(shouted)

신발, 옷, 목도리, 바지, 가방, 팔찌

(fade)

COMPULSIVE SHOPPING NETWORK  
#107 "Robots vs. Humans Part 1"

Written by  
Dayle C. Hall

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BLACK SCREEN

OPENING CREDITS

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(officious voice)

Compulsive buying disorder or CBD or oniomania, from the Greek onios "for sale" and manía or "insanity", is characterized by an obsession with shopping and buying behavior that often causes adverse consequences. YCSN is not responsible for any adverse consequences that may result from a pre-existing compulsive buying disorder. If you think you or someone you know is suffering from this condition please seek the help of a licensed professional. With proper treatment this condition can *sometimes* be successfully treated.

DESHWA'AN (V.O.)

Kvin, Kvar, Tri, Du, Unu

We hear five electronic blips of a time code.

We see the back of a hand counting down from five but out of sync from the countdown and the blips. After one (middle finger) the finger points away from the camera.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right corner

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora is standing with JOSIAH UNRAU, sales rep for M.E. (Mennonite Electric). Josiah is dressed in a button down shirt, suspenders and straw hat. He wears a beard without a mustache. Two models wearing cold weather gear (parkas and gloves) are also on stage.

Set is dressed with a holiday theme, fake snow, Christmas lights and small (fake) pine trees.

Prominently displayed are four electrical fireplaces with fake flames but real heat.

IDORA

It's big and it's beautiful...and  
it's just the thing to help warm you  
up on those cold winter nights and  
turn them into...Hot Mennonites!  
Those chilly nights are coming, you  
know they are...

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Deshwa'an and Assistant are both are sweating and down to t-shirts

DESHWA'AN

Cold winter nights? Bring 'em on,  
they can't come quickly enough.

(sniffs)

Is that Stilton?

(to Assistant)

Is the refrigerator down as well?  
Any word from on the AC?

ASSISTANT

It's my lunch and it's Gorgonzola.

DESHWA'AN

Smells nasty.

ASSISTANT

(sotto voce)

You're a little ripe yourself.

DESHWA'AN

(sniffs himself)

Really? Fine, OK, everything stinks,  
or smells like Durian. Same thing,  
right? It's too damn hot, you know?  
What about Maricio?

ASSISTANT

Maricio?

EXT. ALASKAN MOUNTAIN TOP - NIGHT

Maricio and Assistant are dressed like Eskimos and embracing against a backdrop of snow and igloos.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Deshwa'an waves his hand in front of Assistant's face.

DESHWA'AN  
Hello?

ASSISTANT  
What?

DESHWA'AN  
Were you able to get in touch with  
Maricio? Any eta on a fix? The  
A.C.?

ASSISTANT  
(snaps out of her  
reverie)  
Sorry. I texted him a bit ago and he  
said he's waiting on Billy, the HVAC  
guy. Because of this stupid heat  
wave, Billy's been swamped. He's  
finishing up a job at the Southcenter  
Mall and promised we'd be next.

DESHWA'AN  
Yeah, well it's bad enough working in  
these conditions, but I'm worried  
about the gear as well.

ASSISTANT  
I know, right? And it must be 30  
degrees hotter under those lights.

DESHWA'AN  
To say nothing about all those damn  
heaters.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right corner

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Josiah sweating a bit from the heat. They will  
increasingly look more worn out, hot and sweaty as the  
segment goes on.

IDORA

With me today is Mr. Josiah Unrau,  
the Sales Representative for M.E.,  
Mennonite Electric. Josiah, it's  
great to meet you.

Idora and Josiah shake hands.

IDORA (cont.)

I've gotta say that M.E.'s Hot  
Mennonites Portable Fireplace is an  
amazing product, sure it's a space  
heater but it's so much more!

(into camera)

It's a lovely accent to your personal  
sense of style, and it's built with  
the kind of care and old world  
craftsmanship that will make your  
Personal Fireplace a family treasure  
for years to come.

(looks at tablet)

We've been selling these for the last  
few years and we get a very limited  
allotment and they always sell out.  
I've gotta tell you Compulsives, once  
they're gone, they're gone, you won't  
see them again this year.

Idora walks over and puts her hand on a Hot Mennonites  
Portable Fireplace.

IDORA

A beauty, right? You're looking at  
the Hot Mennonites Portable  
Fireplace, item ME0022B.

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "Hot Mennonites Portable Fireplace,  
item ME0022B"

IDORA

I want to bring Josiah back into this  
now. I know to me, it seemed a  
little counter-intuitive at first,  
but this Personal Fireplace is  
actually made by two separate  
companies. You're responsible for  
this lovely wood, glass and angle  
iron enclosure, right Josiah?

JOSIAH

Yes.

(MORE)

JOSIAH (cont.)

All the exterior metal and woodworking you see here is hand-crafted in North America by direct descendants of Heinrich Dueck, the famous Mennonite craftsman from Southern Manitoba.

IDORA

So you make this lovely case by hand? That must take hours!

JOSIAH

Sure and it takes a long time, but this is a family affair. And I don't want to hear anything about any child labor nonsense, that was all cleared up in the Court of the Queen's Bench, and paying that fine meant we don't have to admit to anything...

IDORA

OK, you make this beautiful case, but what about the electronics? I thought, well I thought that...you people didn't believe in electricity?

JOSIAH

For sure that's not quite true, Idora. We can use many modern conveniences such as automobiles, electricity and the telephone, with careful and proper control. But we stay away from radio and tv since these are largely under the control of the carnal world and are mostly harmful to true and pure spiritual living.

IDORA

Ha ha, I hope that doesn't include us?

(no answer)

O...K. So while you handcraft the case in your shop...

JOSIAH

Yes, our shop in Southern Manitoba. We make the case in the same way our ancestors did, or would have if they were pressured by high court costs to merge with an American Mid-Western

(MORE)

JOSIAH (cont.)

Electrical Supplier. We used to make earlier models out of fine marble, but it was impractical. It was really too heavy to really be considered portable. That's when it was an actual wood stove, but people wanted more convenience, and there were a few unfortunate mishaps...

IDORA

Well, that's all in the past and we really don't need to hear about...

JOSIAH

...everything from back injuries to conflagrations. Sure we Mennonites produce many fine craftsmen but unfortunately we don't produce so many good lawyers. So as part of a settlement, we eventually wound up partnering with a company to handle the heating side of the Personal Fireplace.

IDORA

Well I wouldn't call it lightweight, but it's certainly lighter than marble, and item ME0022B is available in Oak, Cherry and Pine. The Pine looks so old-timey, it's just wonderful. So the electronics are made by...?

JOSIAH

Yes, the electric heater and its controls are made in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, by the OK Electric Corporation.

IDORA

Really? Uh...and this is fully UL approved, right?

JOSIAH

No, but it is CCTL approved.

IDORA

CCTL?

JOSIAH

That would be the Canadian Consumer Testing Laboratories.

IDORA  
Same thing, right? It's certified!  
(points to  
cameraman)  
What's that, Bob? We are too?  
(chuckles)  
Well, let's show our Compulsives how  
this works, OK?

JOSIAH  
Well, in keeping with our philosophy  
we've kept it very simple.

INSERT

We see Idora's hands and a Hot Mennonites Portable Fireplace  
take up most of the screen.

IDORA (V.O.)  
That's right, there's just three  
controls, the on/off button which has  
a safety lock on it, the heater  
control with five pre-set temperature  
settings and this switch here. What  
does this do?

JOSIAH (V.O.)  
That turns on the Sabbath mode  
feature. With this activated, the  
heater will automatically turn on in  
12 hours and then turn itself off  
after 12 hours. You don't have to  
touch it when the lord forbids it.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

ON SCREEN

Idora and Josiah continue with the segment. The models in  
the background are looking very hot and lethargic, fanning  
themselves, etc.

IDORA  
Well I sometimes get Wednesdays off.  
You're saying that I could set this  
on Tuesday at six at night and wake  
up with the condo nice and cozy  
without once having to touch it?  
Terrific! So I guess my Sabbath  
would be Wednesday? What does that  
make me?

JOSIAH

I'm not one to judge, but I would be reminded of Revelations 17.

IDORA

OK...I don't know, uh, it's been a long time...

JOSIAH

(muttering)

The mother of prostitutes and of the abominations of the earth...

IDORA

(ignoring Josiah)

Compulsives, this is item ME0022B, a 1500 watt fully Microthermic...

JOSIAH

Micathermic...

IDORA

Sorry, Micathermic space heater putting out a whopping 5,120 BTUs. This is enough to heat a 150 square foot space. And we're selling this for...

(hand to earbud)

...can this be right? \$175 plus shipping and handling?

INSERT

Text box lower left: "LOWER LEFT MENNONITES ELECTRIC HOT MENNONITES PORTABLE FIREPLACE ITEM ME0022B \$173.25 PLUS \$19.05 SHIPPING AND HANDLING"

IDORA

Wow, what a deal!

(chuckles)

It's almost like you're breaking the 9th commandment!

JOSIAH

Thou shalt not bear false witness?

IDORA

Um, OK, maybe the sixth?

JOSIAH

Thou shalt not kill?

Idora looks toward the booth for help.

IDORA

Anybody?

(hand to earbud)

What's that Deshwa'an? Eight?

Right, well the moment's gone, but yes, this is almost like breaking the eighth...

Idora waits for a response from Josiah and hearing none, continues.

IDORA (cont.)

...amendment. I mean commandment. Commandment. I'm saying it's a steal. And micathermic means that there's no loud fan noise so you won't have to turn up the volume on your TV or Radio.

JOSIAH

But of course, one shouldn't be watching or listening to these carnal forms of entertainment anyway.

IDORA

Yes, of course, but where would that leave one, I mean us? I'm sorry where was I? Oh yes, there's no fan dispersing particulates in the air, you just get clean, natural convection action.

JOSIAH

I wouldn't know about that.

IDORA

No, I expect not.

In the background of the shot, one of the models collapses on the set and the other one starts wobbling. Idora sees this out of the corner of her eye and rushes to get to a break.

IDORA

Um, we're going to take a short break, but stay tuned because coming up on the other side we'll have more from Josiah and Mennonite Electric!

(MORE)

IDORA (cont.)

And a little later, we'll be featuring handcrafted treats from our very own Sorceress of Sparkles, Miss Trisha Backless, showing you some tools, accents and spells to make your scrapbooks *literally* come alive!

DRONE POV

Portia and Frank and walking in to the reception area together. Suze interrupts them.

SUZE

I'm sorry, Mrs. DeSoto, Mr. Trucchi. There's been a little problem.

PORTIA

What now?

SUZE

Well it seems there's a court order preventing you from entering?

PORTIA

What? What kind of nonsense is this? A court order? What court?

SUZE

I dunno, *the* court, I guess. How many are there? I mean, I'm just repeating what the guy said. Here.

Suze hands Portia a thick envelope.

PORTIA

This is outrageous. You can't keep me out of my own company! Come along Frank.

Portia and Frank start walking past the front desk, but their progress is halted by a SECURITY GUARD. The guard has been working at the network for some time and he's somewhat deferential but firm toward Portia.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

SECURITY GUARD

Not so fast. Hold it right there.

(to Suze)

Is there a problem Ms. Wonderlick?

SUZE

Oh. Hi, Arnold. Yeah, no, I was just telling Ms. DeSoto that there's a court order that prevents her from entering the building.

SECURITY GUARD

(to Portia)

Ms. DeSoto...

PORTIA

Don't you Ms. DeSoto me. What's your name? Do you have a badge number?

SECURITY GUARD

My name is Arnold Haux and we don't really have badge numbers, ma'am. You know this. There aren't that many of us, you know that too. I've been working here for over a year, you really don't remember me? You complimented my wife on her couscous chicken recipe at the company potluck Christmas party? I chased that homeless guy out of your office a few months ago? I jumped started your car a week ago? We talked about dog breeds yesterday?

PORTIA

(blank look)

I've got bigger things to do than to keep track of everybody. I've got a company to run.

Portia takes out her phone and the Security Guard blocks her way.

SECURITY GUARD

(to Portia)

Not right now, you don't.

DRONE POV

PORTIA

(to Security Guard)

Well we'll just see what my lawyer has to say about this!

(into phone)

Hello Charles? Portia here. What's this nonsense about...yes, I remember that. No, I'm not...but still, how can they? I'm sorry that's... unacceptable, what do I pay you for?...Yes, I know, but...OK, I'll listen. Hmm, OK. So it's temporary? What about Arnie? Uh huh. And Frank? Really? OK, I...no, I need to know when, what? Yes give me a call.

(to Frank)

Come here for a moment.

Portia and Frank walk away from the desk and the drone follows them.

PORTIA

(whispering)

There seems to be some kind of maneuver, AEG has their guy here already. They're barring me from entering, but you can go on in. It's a power play, Frank, and I need to know what's going on from the inside. Keep me updated, OK.

FRANK

Sure, but won't this just blow over?

PORTIA

I don't think so. My attorney Charles is working on something from his end, we're trying to get the AEG guy out and replaced with a third party until I can get reinstated. But until then, I need you. You're my eyes and ears, and God help us, my brains on the inside.

FRANK

(smiling)

Brains, huh? OK. Sure, no problem, babe.

Frank gives Portia's arm a squeeze and he proceeds past the desk.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

Portia is looking distraught, unsure of her next move when Lizbeth (looking completely feral and hiding in a corner) tries to get her attention.

LIZBETH

Pssst.

PORTIA

(looks around)

What?

LIZBETH

Pssst.

Lizbeth motions for Portia to come to her.

PORTIA

(wary)

Yes?

Portia glances around and walks toward Lizbeth.

LIZBETH

You need to get in?

PORTIA

Why, what do you...

LIZBETH

I can get you in. I know this building inside and out. Well, not really inside and out, I mean I don't know anything about the outside of the building, I don't even remember what color it is, but I do know the insides of this building. There are empty offices, storage rooms, all kinds of spaces, and these are all connected by vents.

(looks at Portia)

You could fit in those vents.

(excited)

We, I mean you could practically live here.

PORTIA

You can get me in? How?

LIZBETH

Follow me.

INT. YCSN CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

D.D.T. boxes with RMA numbers are stacked everywhere. MAX ARBITRAGE (a slimy wall street type with a British accent) is standing behind the lectern with a screen showing a Powerpoint presentation behind him. Everybody is in the meeting except for the Assistant, Deshwa'an and Idora (and of course, Portia). Most are blankly looking at their phones while Frank is secretly filming the proceedings with his tablet.

MAX

...these changes might be a bit painful for some, but change is something we have to embrace, no matter if you think that it's good or bad. It's like the sides of a coin; these changes might be bad for some of you and good for some of us. Of course, some of us are smarter than you and we see the big pic...

Deshwa'an, Idora and the Assistant enter.

DESHWA'AN

Sorry we're late, we had to take a model to the hospital.

Deshwa'an tries to discreetly wave to Manager Fu who gives a half wave back.

IDORA

The doctor said it was heat exhaustion.

(pulls at her blouse)

Crapples, it's not much cooler in here, is it?

ASSISTANT

Do we have any cold drinks? It's going to be at least an hour before Billy, the AC guy...

MAX

(upset)

Who are you people?

DESHWA'AN

Deshwa'an Remolay. I was directing the last segment, the Hot Mennonites Portable Fireplace...

MANAGER FU

Hey, those are pretty neat, I've been thinking of getting...

MAX

Quiet!

(looks at Idora and  
Assistant)

And you are?

IDORA

Idora Hernandez, I don't mean to brag, but I'm kind of the main host, spokesperson. I was working with...

MAX

Did I ask what you were doing?

IDORA

(meekly)

No, but I figured you wanted to know why we were late.

(more forcibly)

Like I said, with no AC, the studio was hot enough without these portable heaters and we were dressed like it was winter. I think the models were a little malnourished to begin with and...

ASSISTANT

(interrupting)

I suppose it was worse because we were in studio B. It's smaller than A, but because of the explosion last week and the problem with the door locks, we're still renovating it and we're forced to use B exclusively...

MAX

(bellowing)

And you are?

ASSISTANT

(meekly)

I'm the assistant.

MAX

Fine. Well I'm not going to start over again, you'll just have to catch up.

IDORA

Excuse me, but who are you?  
(to Frank)  
Where's Portia?

FRANK

Portia is...

MAX

(interrupting)  
Portia is...dead.

There are loud gasps from the assembled, what? How? etc.

MAX

That's right, as far as you're concerned she's dead.

MANAGER FU

As far as we're concerned? What does that mean? She's not really? Dead, I mean?

MAX

Ms. DeSoto steered this company to the brink of an abyss. It's my job to bring it back.

ASSISTANT

But Portia is OK?

MAX

(genuinely upset)  
How do I know? That's not the point. The point is that...

DESHWA'AN

But we need to know how Portia...

MAX

Forget about Portia, OK.

ASSISTANT

But she's OK?

MAX

Fine. She's not dead. She's OK, are you happy now?

IDORA

Not so much happy as relieved. You scared us, that's not very nice.

ASSISTANT

Can we open the door?

FRANK'S TABLET POV

The shot may suggest the famous shot from Citizen Kane where Kane is standing in front of the large campaign poster.

MAX

Will you just shut up and listen to me? Portia is gone. Not dead, just gone. She is not your boss, she is your ex-boss. Any working relationship you had with her is now an ex-relationship. That's the old. We're throwing out the old and it's in with the new! I'm going to be running things now, I'm steering this ship, away from shoals and into a calm sea and toward a prosperous voyage. I'm Max Arbitrage and I work for Animus Equity Global. AEG has acquired the network and all of its holdings. As of now, you all work for Animus Equity Global, but of course, that will change, you won't all be working here for long. It's corporate Darwinism, survival of the fittest!

(disgusted)

One of my jobs is to trim corporate fat and when I look out at you, I see rolls and rolls of fat. It's a new day, people, we're going to be doing things a lot differently from now on. So let's stop with all the interruptions and continue from slide 20...

There are distressed moans from the workers.

MAX

...that's right slide 20 of this presentation.

Max clicks the Powerpoint remote.

MAX (cont.)

What you're now looking at is what I call the "3 P Principle".

INT. YCSN CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

IDORA

Three P Principle?

FRANK

Is Principle one of the P's?

ASSISTANT

Wouldn't that be four P's?

MAX

No. No! It's my principle and I call it the 3 P Principle.

DESHWA'AN

OK, so you're saying that Principle isn't one of the 3 P's, right?

MAX

No!

(upset, trying to remain calm)

The principle has three...within the principle are three P's.

FRANK

(the light slowly coming on)

Of course, because if Principle was one of the P's, it would contain an infinite number of P's. It would be the four P Principle, then the five P Principle, then the six P Principle...

Maricio makes a mind exploding gesture and noise.

MARICIO

(to Frank)

Wow. Eso es profundo, hombre. Me has volado la mente.

Subtitle: Wow. That's profound, man. You blew my mind.

ASSISTANT  
(whispering  
coquettishly)  
Hi, Maricio!

FRANK'S TABLET POV

MAX  
(petulant)  
There are not an infinite number of P's. There are only 3 P's, as in one, two, three P's. There are 3 P's, there are not four and there are not two. Three is the number of P's, no more and no less. And here's what it means.

Max clicks to reveal each one of the slides.

MAX (cont.)  
People.  
(click)  
Prevent.  
(click)  
Profits. I think the meaning is pretty clear, right? Would anyone care to explain what they think this means?

INT. YCSN CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

MARICO  
(sotte Voce)  
Es una mierda.

Subtitle: It's bullsh~~it~~.

MAX  
What?

DESHWA'AN  
I think he said that it's bullsh~~it~~,  
uh Mr. Arbitrage, sir.

IDORA  
Yeah, that's right! I mean I don't approve of the language, but we've always been taught that the human aspect is the single most important aspect of selling.  
(MORE)

IDORA (cont.)

We're not just a store or an online site. We're a welcoming place, we're here to feed a very basic need. Without that human connection, why would anybody be interested in buying from us?

MAX

Well if you'll excuse me, that's bullshit. You've got a call center which you proudly state is staffed in America, by Americans. But these Americans call in sick, steal supplies, make mistakes and generally cost this company money.

(turning pedantic)

An automated call center which either completes the transaction or directs the end consumer to our website is much more efficient and cost effective. We can reduce our costs dramatically and make this network much more profitable. Automation is the key, and not just in the call center, but in many of your positions. We can, and we will, eventually replace most of you with robots.

IDORA

What?

INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

ON SCREEN

IDORA 3000 (she has a name tag) is lit by a single spotlight. She speaks in a robot voice (Idora through a vocoder).

IDORA 3000

If you're like me, sometimes you just don't have enough memory, or the memory that you have is outdated or corrupted...

Idora 3000 starts taking large circuit boards out of her head with accompanying blood spurts.

INT. YCSN CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

IDORA  
(to herself)  
Why would a robot bleed?

MAX  
We at AEG are pushing automation and robotics because that's the key to the survival, not just of the network, but of the human race! Robots. Not humans. Robots.

Max turns off the Powerpoint and throws up his hands in disgust.

MAX (cont.)  
How about this? We reconvene in two days and I want ideas from all of you on how automation can save this network. Two days!

He leaves the room and the group starts breaking up.

IDORA  
What?

MANAGER FU  
I think he's asking us to figure out how to replace us.

ASSISTANT  
Why would I want to come up with ideas on how to make my position redundant?

IDORA  
Worse yet, I don't want to come up with ideas to make someone else lose their job.

FRANK  
We're being asked to rat out ourselves and our friends.

MARICIO  
Es no bueno.

Subtitle: It's not good.

DESHWA'AN  
 Got that right, Marcio, es no bueno.  
 It's like we're working for Stalin if  
 you ask me.

ASSISTANT  
 This blows.

IDORA  
 Yeah.  
     (ironic attempt)  
 Happy Selling, huh.

The group continues to disperse leaving only Frank and Idora, but Manager Fu stays and watches from a distance.

FRANK  
 Idora, do you have a moment?

IDORA  
 Sure, Frank, what's up?

FRANK  
 W...ell, it's a bit tricky, I mean  
 it's a sensitive issue. I'm talking  
 about your, uh, current state.

IDORA  
     (looks around)  
 What about it?

FRANK  
 Going back to that party...

Frank puts his arm on her shoulder and leans in to Idora.

FRANK (cont.)  
 Well, I'm embarrassed to admit that I  
 don't remember everything about that  
 party, but I remember the masks and I  
 remember that we all had a lot to  
 drink, and I, uh, think I might be,  
 um...responsible.

IDORA  
 Frank, are you saying what I think  
 you're saying?

FRANK

I mean I'm not sure, but I have these partial fragments of memory and...I think we, um...you know.

Frank's phone rings - the ringtone is the intro to "Sexual Healing".

INSERT

We see a close up of Frank's phone, Portia is calling.

INT. YCSN CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

FRANK

(into phone)

Can you hold on one moment? Yep.

(to Idora)

Let's talk about this a little later, OK? I...I want to do the right thing, and, hold on.

(into phone)

Hold on, will you? I'm in the middle of something and...well it's OK when I'm in the middle of something, but not when you are? Look, let me call you back,

(whispers into phone)

I also have some footage of the meeting. They're going ahead with the kind of stuff we talked about. In a couple...in a few minutes, OK? OK. Can't talk now. Me too, bye.

(to Idora)

Sorry, we're still trying to adjust and figure out our next course of action vis a vis the company. Lot on our minds, you know. Anyway, like I said, I'm not sure, but let's get a cup of coffee offsite and talk about it, OK?

IDORA

That's all you can say? Let's talk about it? Excuse my language, but fudge you, Frank!

Idora storms off past Manager Fu who has her mouth open in disbelief.

INT. SMALL SPARE OFFICE - DAY

Portia and Lizbeth are crammed into a very small office. Lizbeth is a mess as usual and Portia is looking disheveled as well from climbing through vents in the heat. They are both sitting on boxes of D.D.T.

LIZBETH

I've got this place wired, I'm telling you. I've got the codes to the bathroom and the trash room. It's amazing what people throw away, it's like they eat a third of what they put on their plate. A janitor takes the food out from the cafeteria at 8:30 pm every night, like clockwork. There aren't many guards and I know where the cameras are. It's pretty sweet. Here, do you want a bite?

Portia turns up her nose at the proffered morsel.

PORTIA

What is it?

LIZBETH

(looks at it)

I'm not sure. Eating has become a bit of an act of faith, you know? Sure you're not hungry?

PORTIA

I'm fine. I need to get into my office, I've got files in there I need to access. Can you take me there?

LIZBETH

Sure, but we gotta wait until that English guy leaves. He's taken over your office.

PORTIA

Do you know when he'll leave?

LIZBETH

Not really, I mean he just started working here, but the place usually gets pretty empty around 5. It's just the night shift then and it's pretty much a skeleton crew. We'll have to wait for a while.

PORTIA

Wonderful.

LIZBETH

Drink?

Portia starts to accept and then realizes what she's being offered.

PORTIA

I can wait.

LIZBETH

(shrugs)  
Suit yourself.

POV DRONE

The drone is hovering over the reception desk. Suze is talking to JAMIE, the Fast Express/Big Package guy (The company is called Fast Express/Big Package Shipping and that's what it says on his shirt). Jamie is kind of a slacker, bike messenger type. Suze is finishing up a phone call and as usual has stock quotes on her computer screen.

SUZE

That's right. Sure, I think so. Go ahead and buy them. You don't have to do that! No really...well then thanks, that's really sweet. Love you too.

Suze hangs up and looks at Jamie.

SUZE

My dad, he's terrific, I mean he's not just my dad, he's my financial adviser.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

JAMIE

So have you been able to check out my Bandcamp site?

SUZE

Yeah, I listened to your songs last night.

JAMIE

So, what did you think? I mean, they're not finished yet, right? It's kind of a work in progress, you know.

SUZE

Yeah, no, I thought they were pretty cool, it's kind of punkish, but it's got that foreign thing going on.

JAMIE

Yeah, that's Seo-Yeon, the singer, she's terrific.

SUZE

Well that slow song is really nice and even though I couldn't understand it, it seemed really sad. But you've got that one song that really rocks, but there's hardly any words at all.

JAMIE

Yeah, that one's unfinished. It's supposed to be about driving a car, but Seo-Yeon hasn't been able to come up with anything except shouting driving, driving, driving over and over again.

SUZE

That's what she was saying? Hmm. Maybe she should change the subject?

JAMIE

Sure, what to?

SUZE

I don't know, shopping? Shopping, Shopping, Shopping!

They both laugh at the idea.

JAMIE  
That's actually pretty funny, Seo-  
Yeon might get a laugh out of it.  
I'll run it by the band, we've got a  
practice tonight.

Jamie sees someone approaching and his demeanor becomes  
serious.

JAMIE (cont.)  
Look I have to talk to somebody.  
Later, OK?

SUZE  
Sure, later.

DRONE POV

Idora starts toward the reception desk but she's intercepted  
by Jamie.

JAMIE  
(awkwardly)  
Hey Idora, got a minute?

IDORA  
(distracted)  
Sure, uh, you want to get a cup of  
coffee?  
(a bit sad)  
It's decaf for me, I'm afraid.

JAMIE  
No, that's all right, it's too hot in  
here for coffee and I'm a bit behind  
schedule anyway, but...I need to tell  
you something, OK?

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

IDORA  
Sure, OK, but why the cloak and  
dagger?

JAMIE  
Well, remember that crazy party with  
the insect masks a while back?

IDORA  
(guardedly)  
Y...es.

JAMIE  
Well, I was there and I might have...  
I mean I did have too much to drink.  
I was pretty smashed.  
(conspiratorially)  
I also smoked some pretty strong  
Ganja as well, you know. So, like, I  
don't remember much, but I think that  
we, uh, we might have, you know...  
hooked up. At the time, I didn't  
think much of it, don't get me wrong,  
it's not like it wasn't a big deal, I  
mean it was. Especially after I  
found out about, well...you know...

IDORA  
Are you saying that we...

Idora makes a little pendulum motion with her index finger.

IDORA (cont.)  
No, I don't remember that at all.

JAMIE  
Well, like I said, I don't remember  
much of it either, but I think...we  
did it. I mean, I'll do whatever you  
want, I don't have the best job in  
the world, but I'll pay my share.

IDORA  
Jamie, let's wait a bit, OK? I'm  
still trying to figure this out and  
it's hard, you know?

JAMIE  
Sure, I get it. Whatever you need.

Jamie gives Idora an awkward embrace.

DRONE POV

Manager Fu is standing at a distance watching.

MANAGER FU  
Holy ~~shit~~!

INSERT

We see a close up of her phone as she starts texting "Homeboy".

MANAGER FU TYPING  
OMG! U got time? News re Odor  
IDORA!!!

MANAGER FU (V.O.)  
Damn spellcheck.

We hear Manager Fu's text tone.

TEXT FROM DESHWA'AN  
10 m? Where?

MANAGER FU TEXT  
(typing)  
Back stairs?

We hear Manager Fu's text tone.

TEXT FROM DESHWA'AN  
k

INT. PORTIA'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Max is shutting down his laptop and getting ready to leave while talking on the phone to Brock Pounder.

MAX  
I just wish we could dump Ms. DeSoto's crap somewhere - we don't share the same taste in office furnishings, plus this whole building smells like tire vomit. No, I don't know if that's a thing or not, but that's what it smells like. What's that? How did the meeting go? Piece of cake, Brock. There's only one message these slackers understand - fear.

(laughing)  
It was lovely, lovely I'm telling you. They were quaking in their boots, all afraid the evil Max Arbitrage was going to unleash his fearsome Robot Army. Bunch of wankers, we're better off without the lot.

(MORE)

MAX (cont.)  
 No, I'm serious, the job will finish ahead of schedule, this network is going to be filleted within a few weeks. Speaking of fillets, how about grabbing something to eat at "The Founding Flounders"? My treat? Sure, what the hell.

Max shuts of the light, exits the office and locks the door.

MAX (cont.)  
 But you've gotta get the first round, OK?

DRONE POV

The Drone follows Max down the dark hall then stops and reverses in front of Portia's office.

Portia and Lizbeth appear from the shadows. Portia is a mess, her hair is all over the place and her pantsuit has large stains on it. She gets to the door, motions toward Lizbeth to stay put, looks both ways and then looks up, seeing the drone.

PORTIA  
 You're still here?

She unlocks the door, opens it and nods toward the drone.

PORTIA (cont.)  
 Don't just hover there, you may as well come on in.

The drone enters and she follows, using her phone as a flashlight as she carefully shuts the door.

INT. STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Deshwa'an and Manager Fu are in the stairwell (the same stairwell where Idora inadvertently announced her pregnancy to the world). They are disengaging from an apparently long kiss.

DESHWA'AN  
 Well I missed you too.

MANAGER FU  
I wish we didn't have to, you know,  
sneak around like this.

DESHWA'AN  
Well, the way things are going...

MANAGER FU  
Yeah, right?

DESHWA'AN  
So what's the earth shattering news  
about Idora?

MANAGER FU  
OMG, you're not going to believe it.  
Idora...wait a second. Somebody's  
coming.

Manager Fu pulls Deshwa'an behind the door of the stairwell,  
leaving the door open a crack.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Maricio and Billy LaPlantain, the HVAC guy are talking.  
Billy is an attractive, blue collar black man. He is  
wearing a jumpsuit and carrying a toolbox while Maricio is  
down to his sleeveless t-shirt.

BILLY  
Yeah, this building is showing its  
age. It just wasn't built to handle  
that kind of load. Between all your  
broadcasting stuff, computer gear and  
the AC, the breaker panel overloaded  
and it shorted out a couple of relays  
and condensers. I can get the fans  
running OK, and maybe get the server  
room cooled down some but it will  
take a day or so to get the parts I  
need to get the entire floor cool  
again. Sorry, but that's the best I  
can do. Believe me, with this heat  
things have been crazy, I haven't had  
time to grab lunch...

MARICIO  
Eso está bien.. Los servidores...

Subtitle: That's fine. The servers...

In an effort to avoid the elevator, Idora is walking down the hall toward the staircase. She stops when she sees Maricio and Billy.

IDORA

Hey Maricio.  
(forces a chuckle)  
Hot enough for ya?

MARICIO

No, es demasiado caliente

Subtitle: No, it's too hot.

IDORA

Got that right. So is this place going to be livable tomorrow?

MARICIO

Si, Será mejor, pero aún no arreglado.

IDORA

In English? Come on...

MARICIO

It will be better, but still not fixed.

Billy is looking at Idora as if he's trying to remember her

IDORA

Well I hope you get it fixed soon, it's almost impossible to work under these conditions.  
(to Billy)  
Do I know you?

BILLY

I'm not sure.

MARICIO

This is Billy LaPlantain, the HVAC guy. He runs hot and cold.

Idora and Billy laugh at the phrase.

MARICIO (cont.)

What? I no say it right?

Comprehension dawns on Billy.

BILLY

Wait a second, weren't you at the  
crazy party with all those weird bug  
masks?

(embarrassed)

You know, I don't remember much about  
that night, but I was pretty looped  
and I think we might have...

We see Manager Fu and Deshwa'an's wide eyes in the crack of  
the doorway.

IDORA (O.S.)

(Scream)

Black Out

CREDITS

SONG: PEPPY K-POP 강박 구매자 (The Obsessive Shopper)

SINGER

(shouted)

I'm compulsive!

(singing)

Sometimes I'm angry

Sometimes I'm sad

But I've got a secret

Something always makes me happy

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

Sometimes I feel sick

Sometimes I feel blue

But I've got a secret

I'm always happy shopping

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

(shouted)

신발, 옷, 목도리, 바지, 가방, 팔찌

(fade)

COMPULSIVE SHOPPING NETWORK  
#108 "Robots vs. Humans Part 2"

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BLACK SCREEN

OPENING CREDITS

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(officious voice)

Compulsive buying disorder or CBD or oniomania, from the Greek onios "for sale" and manía or "insanity", is characterized by an obsession with shopping and buying behavior that often causes adverse consequences. YCSN is not responsible for any adverse consequences that may result from a pre-existing compulsive buying disorder. If you think you or someone you know is suffering from this condition please seek the help of a licensed professional. With proper treatment this condition can *sometimes* be successfully treated.

DESHWA'AN (V.O.)

Tano, Nne, Tatu, Mbili, Moja

We hear five electronic blips of a time code.

We see the back of a hand counting down from five but out of sync from the countdown and the blips. After one (middle finger) the finger points away from the camera.

INT. PORTIA/MAX'S OFFICE - DAY

Deshwa'an and Assistant are sitting down and Max is pacing back and forth, tablet in hand, obviously very upset.

MAX

And what about this? You put a dead woman on the air? Really, a dead woman?

DESHWA'AN

Why are you bringing that up? That was before your time...

MAX

It might not have happened on my watch, but I'm damned well having to deal with the consequences.

(MORE)

MAX (cont.)

If I have to deal with it, so should you.

DESHWA'AN

Well in our defense, we didn't know she was dead at the time.

ASSISTANT

We needed somebody to fill the slot and...

MAX

But a bloody dead woman?

DESHWA'AN

I'm sorry sir, but we had no way of knowing...

ASSISTANT

We were in a rush and...

MAX

And so you put a bloody dead woman on the air. For two bloody hours!

(sarcastic)

That's using the ol' noodle, right?

(mock upset)

I say, we're having a spot of trouble, what do you think we ought to do?

(mock triumphant/  
sarcastic)

I know, I've got a bloody brilliant idea! Let's put a bloody dead woman on the air! Really, what were the two of you thinking? We don't even carry any of her product line anymore. About all you two geniuses did was:

(numbering with his  
fingers)

One: tie up our bandwidth. Two:, confuse the hell out of both the call center and our shipping and receiving departments, though I'm not sure if that should be two or three. Three: force the returns department to process credits to a thousand-odd credit cards. Four: allow for the creation of lawsuits from the next of kin and the suppliers both of which legal is still trying to deal with.

(MORE)

MAX (cont.)

And number five: all the while your lovely "Compulsives" are either blogging about the miracle that brought a dead woman back to life or calling us uncaring, incompetent and inconsiderate bastards for violating the sanctity of life by putting a bloody dead woman on the air! What the ~~fuck~~ were you thinking?

The Assistant is lost in thought.

INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

We see ZOMBIE BARBARA VOLK standing on a set of with several caskets. She's rubbing one hand sensuously over the wood of one of the coffins.

ZOMBIE BARBARA VOLK

(smiling)

You know what I think?

Zombie Barbara Volk winks and her eye falls out.

ZOMBIE BARBARA VOLK (cont.)

I think these are some real nice coffins!

INT. PORTIA/MAX'S OFFICE - DAY

Max snaps his fingers in front of the Assistant's face.

MAX

Hello? Hello?

The Assistant shakes her head to get rid of the fantasy.

ASSISTANT

What? Oh, right. Well the host was obviously suffering some kind of breakdown...

DESHWA'AN

If you're going to blame someone, blame me. It was my choice. The host had gone off the deep end and was in the process of destroying the studio. We had to do something.

MAX

Ah yes.

(looks at tablet)

And that was because you didn't see fit to make sure the bloody fire alarm wouldn't go off in the bloody studio!

DESHWA'AN

With all due respect, I don't handle building maintenance...

MAX

Fair enough.

(sarcastic)

You're the director after all, you can't be bothered doing such menial chores as making sure the bloody soundstage was going to remain quiet. And then you allow this bonkers new age snake oil salesman...what was he selling?

ASSISTANT

The bBob Mystery Power Sphere, sir. It's kind of a...meditation device.

(looks at Deshwa'an)

We think.

MAX

Oh, great! I can see them flying off the shelves. Everybody needs bloody bBob balls. So then this lunatic sets off a bomb in the studio...

ASSISTANT

It wasn't a bomb. The police have already concluded that the bBob ball, uh, Mystery Power Sphere, overloaded. And we don't book the segments, we just direct them...

MAX

Ah yes, the signature response of the American worker, slakus americanus.

(American accent)

I'm sorry, that's not my job.

(under his breath)

Useless twits.

(normal voice)

OK, so the studio gets destroyed and then you put on some 2 hour long show

MAX (cont.)  
 from two thousand and fourteen with  
 some poor bloody dead woman selling  
 non-existent luggage. Let...me...  
 see...How many cock-ups is that?

Max gets into Deshwa'an's face.

MAX (cont.)  
 That's not a bloody rhetorical  
 question, you wanker.

DESHWA'AN  
 I don't know. Three or four. But a  
 lot, no most of this was not our...

MAX  
 (interrupting)  
 There you go again! You know what I  
 can't stand?

ASSISTANT  
 (interrupting and  
 clueless)  
 Those cracker packages where you have  
 to use so much force to open them  
 that you wind up shattering the  
 crackers? That's what I can't...

MAX  
 (fed up)  
 Shut...up!  
 (glares at  
 Assistant)  
 Aside from blathering idiots,  
 (looks back at  
 Deshwa'an)  
 I can't stand people who don't take  
 responsibility for their own cock-  
 ups. I don't have a problem if you  
~~fuck~~ up and you come to me and say,  
 "Mr. Arbitrage, sir, I'm sorry, but I  
 cocked-up royally." That means two  
 things: One, that you are smart  
 enough and self-aware enough to know  
 that you cocked-up and Two, you've  
 got the balls or ovaries to admit it.  
 But to make all these excuses instead  
 of owning up to the problem, it's  
 like: "oh Mr. Arbitrage, it wasn't my  
 job," or "oh Mr. Arbitrage, I thought  
 somebody else would take care of the

(MORE)

MAX (cont.)  
 fire alarm," or "oh Mr. Arbitrage, I didn't think to look at the segment I was airing before I put it on," or "oh Mr. Arbitrage, I didn't take all the regular crisps out of the vending machine and replace them with something called 'Funions'." There will be no more excuses, you hear? You both are on the thinnest of ice. We're clearing out the dead wood from this network and right now, you two are at the top of the list and my chainsaw is just getting warmed up.

Max mimes pulling on a chainsaw starting rope.

MAX (cont.)  
 Varrrrrrrrroooooom. That's all, get out of here and send in the next one, OK?

Max mimes going after them with a chainsaw.

MAX (cont.)  
 Varrrrrrrrrooom, Varrrrrrrrrrroom!

After Deshwa'an and the Assistant leave, Max collapses into his chair, feigning exhaustion but clearly enjoying himself.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and CHEF PIERRE PRESSURE are doing a cooking segment. Chef Pressure is a French Canadian Chef, dressed in Chef garb and already half lit (he likes to drink). The set is decorated with cooking appliances and features something hidden under a large sheet

INSERT

Scroll at bottom on screen: "LAST CHANCE TO ORDER THE HARRY FARMS/DAIRY HEIRS CHEESE TUB \$93.13 - - - USE YOUR COMPULSIVE CLUB CARD TO PAY THE S&H!"

IDORA

Hi Compulsives, it's the top of the hour and welcome back. I know some of you are still on hold waiting for your chance to buy the twenty four gallon 'Harry Dairy Heirs' Neverending Cheese Tub from our last segment. The Harry Farms/Dairy Heirs company has been making and selling cheese to restaurants and institutions since 1987 and for the first time, we're making their fine selection of bulk cheese products available to you. It's a popular item and it will sell out, but I think we have enough stock for those remaining online. If you think you missed out, you can try calling in or ordering it online, but we can't guarantee availability at this point.

CHEF PIERRE

(nodding)

That's a lot of cheese.

IDORA

Yes, yes it is.

CHEF PIERRE

But what a great deal, no? I love cooking with cheese. I literally put it in everything.

IDORA

I know you do, Chef, it's kind of your thing, right? Anyway, we've blown the surprise at who is going to be in this next segment, so it may as well be my chance to do the intro, right?

CHEF PIERRE

If you would be so kind, Mademoiselle.

IDORA

(looks off camera)

Doesn't he just class this place up or what? Come on Compulsives, you can say it along with me: Cooking can be fun. Cooking can be adventurous.

(chuckling)

Everybody?

Camera Ops and crew join in with Idora.

ALL  
And maybe Cooking can be a little  
dangerous.

Light laughter and scattered applause from the crew.

IDORA  
Especially if you're "Cooking With  
Pressure!"

Loud applause from the crew.

INSERT

Text box lower left: "COOKING WITH PRESSURE! WITH CHEF  
PIERRE PRESSURE!"

CHEF PIERRE  
Tres Bien! You did that very well.

IDORA  
I know, right? I've always wanted to  
do that. Compulsives, we've got  
something truly exciting and  
revolutionary for you tonight. I'm  
not going to drag this out, it's  
simply one word: Robot Chefs.

CHEF PIERRE  
That's right. Exciting times we live  
in, no?

IDORA  
Of course, you all recognize the man  
next to me, he's a living legend and  
a long-time staple here at the  
network, Chef Pierre Pressure.  
(reads off tablet)  
He's cooked for such legends as...

INSERT

Full screen pictures of each Canadian Legend accompany their  
name

IDORA (V.O.)  
Olympic Gold Medalist Gaétan Boucher,  
Astronaut Roberta Bondar  
and Governor-General David Johnston.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box lower left: "COOKING WITH PRESSURE! WITH CHEF PIERRE PRESSURE!"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Chef Pierre continue the segment.

IDORA

(looks into camera)

He's been a Celebrity judge on Chopped Canada and a two-time runner up for the Taste of Edmonton Food Championship. Chef Pierre is the owner and head chef at the lovely @233 restaurant in Montreal, and if you're ever in the great north, you've got to drop by. I simply can't recommend his restaurant highly enough.

(turns to Chef)

You know, Chef, when I finally got to visit @233 this last spring, I was surprised at how big the place is. But even though the place is huge, the whole experience felt, I don't know, intimate.

Chef Pierre pours himself a large glass of wine.

CHEF PIERRE

Well, we try to make every meal memorable and as personal as a grudge. Am I saying that right?

IDORA

Not really, but we get it. The restaurant was built in a former hockey rink, right?

CHEF PIERRE  
Oui, mais, do we have time?

He takes a large slug off the glass.

IDORA  
It's just you, me and the robot chef,  
Chef.

INSERT

A prepared video accompanies Chef Pierre's talk, video of the hockey team, the architect, the building etc.

CHEF PIERRE (V.O.)  
Well it's an interesting story, no?  
The Manitoba Moose were rumored to be  
moving to Montreal in 2011 and a  
group of investors built this amazing  
building designed by famed architect  
Maison Négligé. Le Cambuse d'élan or  
the how you say the Moose Caboose I  
think they called it, Mais hélas, ze  
Moose instead wound up in Nova Scotia  
and became the St. John's Ice Caps, I  
think, no? This caboose became  
available so we became one of the  
primary tenants.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box lower left: "COOKING WITH PRESSURE! WITH CHEF  
PIERRE PRESSURE!"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Chef Pierre continue the segment.

IDORA  
Well the ice is all gone, right? But  
don't you do something special for  
the holiday season?

CHEF PIERRE

What?

IDORA

With the floor...

CHEF PIERRE

Oh, I know what you mean. Well during the holiday season we used to flood the floor, freeze it and our waitresses and waiters all skated with your orders.

INT. HOCKEY RINK/RESTAURANT - NIGHT

We see a restaurant with tables on an ice rink. Patrons are slipping and falling, the wait staff are losing their balance and dropping food on customers etc.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box lower left: "COOKING WITH PRESSURE! WITH CHEF PIERRE PRESSURE!"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Chef Pierre continue the segment.

CHEF PIERRE

Unfortunately, there were some liability issues, so we no longer do that. And not to be so confusing, yes, but @233 is really not at 233 anymore, it's at 1879, but we kept the name, because it was the brand, you know? And we're still on Rue Guy, no? It's right near Boulevard de Maisonneuve.

IDORA

(chucking)

You hear that Compulsives? Don't get lost.

IDORA (cont.)

I have to say that I'm, we'll, intrigued about this next segment. When we were going through the pre-production meeting, we were all really excited...

INT. PORTIA/MAX'S OFFICE - DAY

We join a meeting in progress with Max, Idora and Chef Pierre. There are large piles of D.D.T. (with RMA numbers on the boxes) everywhere, so many that it makes it hard to move around the office.

CHEF PIERRE

Absolutely not! I'm not ze gimmick, a how you say straight man for some Metallic Mountebank. This isn't like your...James Henry legend.

MAX

Yes, well I confess to being a bit at sea here. Are you actually referring to James Henry, one of the fathers of literary realism?

CHEF PIERRE

Quelle?

IDORA

No sir, I think he means John Henry, you know, the story of the "Steel-Drivin' Man"?

Max shakes his head no, and Chef Pierre shakes his head yes.

IDORA (cont.)

It's an African-American folk story, you see it pits John Henry in a contest against a steam powered hammer. He wins in the end, but his heart gives out and he dies.

MAX

Sounds colorful, I'm sure. Well no one expects you to die, Chef, and robots aren't going to be able to replace cooks anytime soon. Just think of this as a fun way to approach one of your segments.

(MORE)

MAX (cont.)  
Look everything else will be the  
same, you can still push your  
cookware and whatnot.

CHEF PIERRE  
Absolutely not, I refuse. I will not  
lower myself to perform with this  
mechanical monstrosity.

MAX  
We'll give you another three percent  
for each sale of your cookware...

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box lower left: "COOKING WITH PRESSURE! WITH CHEF  
PIERRE PRESSURE!"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Chef Pierre continue the segment. Chef Pierre  
takes another large swig of wine.

CHEF PIERRE  
Yes, we are thrilled to give you  
Compulsives a glimpse of the future,  
perhaps.

IDORA  
But before we get to our other  
"special" guest, perhaps you'd like  
to tell us what you'll be preparing,  
Chef.

CHEF PIERRE  
Oui, we will prepare for you a  
scrumptious three course meal. We  
will start and end with Beaver Tail,  
how about that? But I've got a  
surprise for you. There will be two  
different kinds of Beaver Tail.

IDORA

Two kinds? Wow, sounds interesting.

CHEF PIERRE

(refilling glass)

Oui, for sure, one is real beaver tail and the other is the famous desert with the same name.

(takes a slug)

We will also prepare a lovely sal-mon as the main course.

IDORA

OK. Let's get this started!

She removes the sheet revealing a rectangle-shaped box with a metal top that's shaped like a chef's hat. There is a touch screen and a logo that says OttoChef 3000.

IDORA (cont.)

Compulsives, this is the Ottochef 3000. I'm told this one is actually a beta version, but it actually has a vocabulary of 40,000 words - right now just in English, but we'll have a French version for you soon, Chef. Even so, we thought we would keep the default name of Otto, but when you get your own Ottochef 3000, you can name it anything you like. Otto responds to simple English commands.

Idora turns the unit on, a welcome screen comes on and then it goes straight to the MS Blue Screen of Death and a little smoke comes from the rear of the unit. Chef Pierre reacts smugly, already a bit drunk.

CHEF PIERRE

I think there's a problem with Otto, no? Otto c'est morte, non?

IDORA

(looks at booth)

Deshwa'an? Can we reboot...

(hand to earbud)

OK, we'll take a look at Otto during the next break. Chef Pierre, you didn't do anything to Otto, did you?

CHEF PIERRE  
 (obviously guilty)  
 Me? Non, I don't know what you're  
 talking about. Perhaps it was the  
 work of the Anti-Robot Résistance  
 Humaine.

She looks at Chef Pierre with some suspicion.

IDORA  
 The Anti-Robot what? Does that even  
 exist?

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
 It does now!

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box lower left: "COOKING WITH PRESSURE! WITH CHEF  
 PIERRE PRESSURE!"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Chef Pierre continue the segment.

IDORA  
 OK, well I guess we're improvising a  
 little here, this was going to be a  
 fun contest between Chef Pierre and  
 Otto, but we'll go ahead with just  
 the Chef.

Chef Pierre takes out a beaver tail - a real cut off tail.

CHEF PIERRE  
 Bien, we can proceed without Otto.  
 Here, you see, we have a beaver tail.

IDORA  
 Poor thing.

CHEF PIERRE

Non, c'est OK, they can live very happy in captivity without their tails. These comes from the Ferme de Castors, which is a beaver farm in Nova Scotia. They raise them and when they get to a certain age they get fixed you know and then they remove the tails, whack!

IDORA

Whack?

CHEF PIERRE

Oui, they drug them first and after they, how you say remove their things and cut off the tails, the beaver grows happy and fat. I think they have a good life, no?

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN

(looks at his phone)

I don't know if this is really a thing, but this is just...wrong.

ASSISTANT

(to Deshwa'an)

Can they really live without their tails?

DESHWA'AN

I don't really know, I mean sure, I suppose it's possible but...I can't find anything about this on Google. Is he drunk or making this up?

ASSISTANT

I don't know if he's making it up, but I think it's a pretty good bet that he's dr...

DESHWA'AN

(interrupting)

Christ, we'll have PETA on our ass again.

ASSISTANT

That looks awful.

DESHWA'AN  
(into mic)  
Otto's dead, so can we change the  
scroll? Do we have the item number  
for the Chef's Cookware Set?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box lower left: "COOKING WITH PRESSURE! WITH CHEF  
PIERRE PRESSURE!"

INSERT

Scroll at the bottom of the screen: "PRESENTING THE OTTOCHEF  
3000 \$17,989 PLUS HANDLING AND SHIPPING. LIMITED QUANTITY.  
ITEM OC3000A - THIS ITEM NOT ELIGIBLE FOR COMPULSIVE  
CASH..."

INSERT

Scroll at the bottom of the screen: MESSAGE IS DELETED  
CHARACTER BY CHARACTER (OPERATOR HITTING THE BACKSPACE KEY)

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Chef Pierre continue the segment.

IODRA:  
But that...doesn't even look edible.

CHEF PIERRE  
But of course it's not. You have to  
grill the tail until the skin burns,  
once you have done that it easily  
peels off. Bien. Normally I would  
say you should do this outdoors,  
because the burning skin has a  
particular odor.

Idora wrinkles her nose in distaste.

IDORA  
I'm sorry, Chef, but that looks and  
smells horrible.

CHEF PIERRE

Well of course, you have to take off the skin. It comes right off.

Chef Pierre removes the skin off the beaver tail.

CHEF PIERRE (cont.)

For this presentation, I have some small puff pastry dough, but you could use the frozen kind and that would be OK too.

IDORA

If you didn't want to use beaver tail could you substitute something else?

(chuckling)

Does it taste just like chicken?

Would any kind of meat work?

CHEF PIERRE

Non. The beaver tail has a unique taste, unlike anything else. It tastes kind of like fat with the consistency of cartilage, or cartilage with the consistency of fat.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

ASSISTANT

(sarcastic)

Yum.

DESHWA'AN

Yeah, I'm with you on this one.

Sounds disgusting.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box lower left: "COOKING WITH PRESSURE! WITH CHEF PIERRE PRESSURE!"

INSERT

Text box lower left: "ITEM CPP300 COOKWARE SET \$99.17 AND  
ITEM CPP310 CUTLERY SET \$49.91, ITEM CPP401 MA VIE SOUS  
PRESSION/MY LIFE UNDER PRESSURE COOKBOOK AND BLU-RAY COMBO  
\$29.55"

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "ORDER ALL THREE TOGETHER AND  
RECEIVE \$19.17 COMPULSIVE CASH"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Chef Pierre continue the segment.

CHEF PIERRE

You could substitute pork or a  
whitefish of some kind, but why would  
you?

IDORA

Well, there's availability for one.  
Where would I buy fresh beaver?

CHEF PIERRE

Well if you have them around where  
you live, you could trap them or  
shoot them like they used to in the  
old days.

IDORA

Is that even legal?

CHEF PIERRE

(gleeful)

Yes, you will have to check on that,  
right? If you can't find it at your  
local butcher, there may be an exotic  
meat market in your town, or you can  
find this places on the internet, no?

Chef Pierre takes another "sip" of wine and starts preparing  
the dish.

CHEF PIERRE (cont.)

We sell some of these meats direct  
from our restaurant, but we no longer  
ship them. We used to until we had  
some get lost for around a month and  
they were eventually shipped back to  
us.

(MORE)

CHEF PIERRE (cont.)

It wasn't very nice and we had to shut down the restaurant because of the smell. Now once the skin is off, you will want to cut this into little two by four centimeter rectangles. Put these into a small bowl. Next season with some Herbs de Provence, a small amount of garlic, some finely minced shallots and salt and pepper to taste. Now we take the pastry dough which we have made ahead of time with four sticks of butter - the butter has to be cold - and cut these into four centimeter squares. Line these up on a greased pan, or use parchment paper or you could use some of my Chef Pressure Pans - these are non-toxic and non-stick.

IDORA

Compulsives, I have to say that I absolutely love these pans. They transfer the heat so well and nothing sticks to them.

CHEF PIERRE

Oui, look here. We heated this pan to 260 degrees...

IDORA

What's that in Fahrenheit?

CHEF PIERRE

Five Hundred? I think so yes. So after heating the pan, we put in a combination of cheddar cheese, corn syrup, bubble gum, tree sap and marine epoxy and look, it just glides out of the pan. These pans are very much like the one we use in our restaurant. *Regardez ici.*

Chef Pierre takes a pan and smacks it against the counter top. He then picks up a bowling ball from underneath the counter, climbs a small step ladder and drops the bowling ball onto a pan. It makes a loud noise and causes some damage. He climbs back down, takes the pan and flings it towards one of the cameras. It misses, but perhaps the camera swings wildly in trying to avoid the flying pan.

CHEF PIERRE

That's strength, no? They cook very evenly and they hold up to the kind of abuse that a professional kitchen puts out.

IDORA

And as I think you can see from the scroll, today only we are offering a crazy-great deal. The deal includes one of these amazing pans, the Chef's special cutlery set, his most recent Cookbook and Blu-Ray discs of his shows - all for one low price of \$180.00 plus shipping and handling. And if you order within the next hour, you receive an additional \$20.00 of compulsive cash!

CHEF PIERRE

I think this is a great deal, no?

Takes another gulp of wine.

CHEF PIERRE (cont.)

Now we place the tail pieces into the center of the dough with the veiny side down and fold the dough over. You see? You're making little beaver tails. I like to use the fork to make the little markings on it. These could go into a 400 degree oven for twenty minutes. I say could, but where's the fun in that?

He puts on a welding helmet and grabs a large acetylene torch, sparks it up and starts to "cook" the pastry. He stops "cooking" for a bit and starts waving around the torch.

CHEF PIERRE (cont.)

You could actually make these ahead of time and warm them in a low oven, but maybe this would be a fun cooking project for the youngsters, no?

IDORA

(looks into camera)

I think it's time that I give you the don't try this at home line, Chef Pierre is a professional.

(MORE)

IDORA (cont.)

I don't think it's a very good idea to have your kids using dangerous tools like the Chef's special cooking torch.

(to Chef)

Are you done with that? Can you turn it off?

CHEF PIERRE

What? Oh, yes.

Chef Pierre turns off the torch and refills his glass.

CHEF PIERRE (cont.)

In the meantime, we need to make the sauce. Take a medium saucepan and put a little bit of oil and butter to line the bottom. Add some minced garlic, chopped parsley and shallots. You can't let the garlic burn, you just want to get them, you know, translucent. Next add a cup of a sweet white wine like a Riesling, no? Once this comes to a simmer, add a cup and a half of grated cheese, you'll want to use a good cheese, I like Raclette, no?, but you could use plain Swiss, Fontina, Gouda, Abondance, Appenzell, Emmentaler, mild Provolone, Cantal, Graviere or Gruyere.

He opens the oven behind him and removes a tray.

CHEF PIERRE (cont.)

Again through the magic of TV, we have some of the tails we prepared earlier, yes?

He plates the Beaver Tail Appetizers.

CHEF PIERRE (cont.)

You serve them warm with the cheese sauce on the side. Cut some chervil and sprinkle over et voilà, we have our appetizer of beaver tail and cheese sauce.

He offers Idora one of the beaver tail snacks and she takes a tentative bite.

CHEF PIERRE (cont.)

Careful, it's hot.

IDORA

I never tasted anything quite like this. It's crunch and gooey at the same time and...

(makes a face  
despite herself)

Oh my that's...that's interesting!

INT. PORTIA/MAX'S OFFICE - DAY

Max is talking to Frank. He plans to fire him.

MAX

I know why you think you're here...to spy on me. Go ahead, I've got nothing to hide. But face it Frank, your side lost. There's no shame in that.

(big grin)

Well, actually I'm lying. There's a lot of shame in that. Because the act of losing makes you what? That makes you a loser, Frank. AEG is the winner and we control the network now.

FRANK

You haven't won yet. The board is still considering things, I can't say any more, but this won't stop here.

MAX

We'll see about that.

Max gets up and starts to pace.

MAX

You know, one of the things I've been tasked with is identifying processes that are in place and determining if they are in line with Animus Global's best practices. We are discussing moving to an automated system across different areas, countries, and platforms. Because of this, we need to identify our assets and liabilities, particularly when it comes to human resources. Am I clear? So I'm engaged in a bit of a fact finding journey, you know?

(MORE)

MAX (cont.)

Now, Mr. Trucchi, why don't you tell me just what a...

(looks at tablet)

...an Operations and Trade Partner Manager does. How do you help the Network make money?

FRANK

W...ell, it's not overstating things when I say that practically I run this place. Here at the network, I'm like the president, the chief surgeon and mission control all rolled into one. And while a lot of what I do is at a higher level, there are times when I have to roll up my sleeves and tighten up loose nuts and bolts. I'm tasked with ensuring a seamless connection between all the departments, from building maintenance to our social media campaigns, from brick and mortar to the cloud and beyond. That's the Ops side. On the Trade Partner side, I'm the guy who makes the contact with and maintains our relationship with the supply chain. We offer them a unique and low cost way to direct sell and it's my job to make sure we're all happy, and that means we all make money. They're our partners, after all. It's something I take very seriously, because if they're profitable, we're profitable...

Max tries to keep from laughing and finally can't help himself and guffaws.

MAX

Bollocks! I mean, and take this as a compliment, Frank, but I don't know when I've ever heard such a string of unmitigated bullshit! You're in way over your head. You have made, I don't know, bizarre product choices, first the coffee and then this stuff.

Max points to the many boxes of D.D.T. taking up space in his office.

MAX (cont.)

Your employees are all over the map, seemingly acting autonomously, and often at cross purposes, like a bunch of bloody free-range chickens with their heads lopped off. Not to put too fine a point on it, but if left under your control, this entire network would be BK inside of six months, a year tops. Anyway, it's clear Portia didn't keep you around for your brains. You know, I thought I was actually going to enjoy sacking you, but here I am thinking it might be good to keep you around for a few laughs.

Max moves his hands, weighing his choices like a scale.

MAX (cont.)

Nah. This will be just as much fun. Turn in your car keys, keycard, phone, laptop and tablet and go see Ingrid in HR for an exit interview. Bye, bye, Frank.

FRANK

I'm being...fired?

MAX

What? No, I'm sorry, you've got this all wrong.

FRANK

(confused)

What? How?

MAX

You've got your tenses all wrong my dear boy. Not present tense. Past tense, not being, been. As in you have been fired. Now get out of here, or do I have to call Security?

FRANK

You can't do this...

(starts to leave)

You'll see, I'm going to be turning this over to my attorney. I'm going to sue both AEG and your sorry Limey ass.

Frank leaves, slamming the door shut. Max checks his tablet and laughs to himself.

MAX  
I can't wait. Now who's bloody next?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box lower left: "COOKING WITH PRESSURE! WITH CHEF PIERRE PRESSURE!"

INSERT

Text box lower left: "ITEM CPP300 COOKWARE SET \$99.17 AND ITEM CPP310 CUTLERY SET \$49.91, ITEM CPP401 MA VIE SOUS PRESSION/MY LIFE UNDER PRESSURE COOKBOOK AND BLU-RAY COMBO \$29.55"

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "ITEM CPP511 CHEF PIERRE PRESSURE'S FLASH FRYER \$88.13 PLUS S&H"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Chef Pierre continue the segment.

CHEF PIERRE  
(obviously looped)  
So we had baked the spaghetti squash  
with just salt and oil in one of my  
non-stick pans for around a fifty  
minutes and we wind up with this.

He looks at the four halves of spaghetti squash in front of him.

CHEF PIERRE (cont.)  
You just take a fork like so and peel  
away.

IDORA  
Look at that!

CHEF PIERRE

Until you have a pile of what looks like the spaghetti, no? This will be a garnish for our salmon, but it won't be soft like this. Take a handful, shake it up and toss it into my Flash Fryer for maybe, I don't know, ten seconds and using tongs, take them out and onto a paper towel.

Chef Pierre tosses the squash into the fryer causing a splatter of hot oil.

IDORA

Is that safe?

CHEF PIERRE

Probably, maybe not so much so, yeah.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

ASSISTANT

So what about the pool?

DESHAW'AN:

Oh man, don't mention it. Relax, everybody gets their money back, as the results are...I don't know, call them inconclusive. There were a few ideas floated around like holding the pot in a kind of escrow and wait for the kid to get big enough that we could get a DNA sample and match that against employees, vendors, suppliers and friends. Anyway, it's all moot because once Idora found out about it, she let me know that she wasn't too keen on the idea.

DRONE POV

Deshwa'an is walking down the hall and Idora approaches from the other direction, holding a cup of iced tea. They stop in front of each other.

IDORA

A ~~fucking~~ Pool?

A one-two punch, she throws the drink in his face and slaps his face with the other hand

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN  
(rubbing his cheek)  
Did you tell her?

ASSISTANT  
It wasn't me, but that stuff has been  
all over our Facebook page, so I'm  
not surprised she found out about it.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "COOKING WITH PRESSURE! WITH CHEF  
PIERRE PRESSURE."

INSERT

Text box lower left: "ITEM CPP300 COOKWARE SET \$99.17 AND  
ITEM CPP310 CUTLERY SET \$49.91, ITEM CPP401 MA VIE SOUS  
PRESSION/MY LIFE UNDER PRESSURE COOKBOOK AND BLU-RAY COMBO  
\$29.55"

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "ITEM CPP511 CHEF PIERRE  
PRESSURE'S FLASH FRYER \$88.13 PLUS S&H"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Chef Pierre continue the segment.

CHEF PIERRE  
Now for the presentation, we take the  
mashed turnip in the center of the  
plate, put our baked salmon on it and  
surround it with the fried squash,  
then drizzle on a little of the anise  
and cilantro sauce and add some  
sprinklings of chives and et voila,  
you have Salmon under Pressure.

IDORA

Wow, Compulsives, look at that. I have to say it looks and smells so... exotic! And yes, this recipe is in the Chef's latest cookbook Ma Vie sous Pression/My Life under Pressure.  
(to Chef)  
Did I pronounce that right?

CHEF PIERRE

Oui, you did fine.

Idora holds up the cookbook.

IDORA

You know, what I love about this is that it's more than just a cookbook. I mean sure there are all the recipes you would expect, but there are also lovely stories on how these recipes came to be and the personal stories they tell. For instance, I love the story about your grandmother and the Persimmon-Rum Omelets.

Chef Pierre smiles.

IDORA (cont.)

Also, there are these lovely photographs throughout the book personally taken by the Chef featuring his adopted home of Montreal. I have to say that I found some of your early hand-drawn menus just priceless.

(looks into camera)

So with recipes, stories, and artwork, it's worth \$30.00 right there, but then you get the blu-ray set of season one of his Prix Artis award winning CBC cooking show. That's 15 episodes that you can watch over and over. This is item CPP401 Ma Vie sous Pression/My Life under Pressure Cookbook and Blu-Ray Combo for only \$29.55. Again, that's item CPP401 and I'm told we're running low so get your orders in now. What's next Chef?

CHEF PIERRE

Next we will make the perhaps most famous Canadian desert: Beaver Tail.

(MORE)

CHEF PIERRE (cont.)  
We start with the dough, yes?

DRONE POV

Frank is walking down the hallway when someone grabs him and pulls him into a room.

INT. CLOSET - DAY

Portia has pulled Frank into a very crowded closet. Of course, there are many boxes of D.D.T. crammed into the space. Portia is dressed in a blue jumpsuit and has most of her hair under a YCSN ball cap. Frank starts to protest and then sees it's Portia and the two embrace.

FRANK  
(whispering)  
Portia, what are you doing here?

PORTIA  
(whispering)  
I've snuck into the building. Last night I was able to get into my office. She shows Frank a flash drive. It's all right here: the files on the rest of the board.

FRANK  
The nuclear option?

PORTIA  
Everything on everybody. From their most innocent peccadilloes to their basest perverted predilections. It took a lot of time, effort and money to collect all of this and I hoped to never have to use it. But I don't think we've got any choice.

FRANK  
I agree. This Max Arbitrage is a madman. He fired me. Me! Come on, let's leave.

PORTIA  
No, I've got to stay. But I want you to take this and get it to Charles Umbrage, my lawyer.

(MORE)

PORTA (cont.)

He's got very detailed instructions on what to do with this. You'll have to be careful getting this out of the building.

She hands the drive over to Frank.

PORTIA (cont.)

I'm counting on you, Frank. The future of the network is literally in your hands.

FRANK

You know, maybe it's just me, but aren't you even the tiniest bit turned on? Have you ever done it in a broom closet? I'm just saying that I've got a few minutes before I have to get over to HR and...

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Manager Fu is decked out in black, Ninja style. She has a backpack with her. She's opening HELM boxes and taking the Y-Teixna bottles out of the boxes and cramming them into her backpack. In the background, a few boxes of D.D.T. are starting to have a bit of foam leaking out of them.

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

Lizbeth stops at a table and looks at an employee. There's a half-finished lunch on the table. Lizbeth looks at the meal and then the employee.

LIZBETH

You going to finish that?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box lower left: "ITEM CPP300 COOKWARE SET \$99.17 AND ITEM CPP310 CUTLERY SET \$49.91, ITEM CPP401 MA VIE SOUS PRESSION/MY LIFE UNDER PRESSURE COOKBOOK AND BLU-RAY COMBO \$29.55"

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "ITEM CPP511 CHEF PIERRE  
PRESSURE'S FLASH FRYER \$88.13 PLUS S&H"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Chef Pierre continue the segment.

CHEF PIERRE  
...so next you take these little golf  
ball sized pieces of the dough and  
then flatten them out so they look  
like little...

IDORA  
(interrupting)  
Beaver Tails!

CHEF PIERRE  
Oui, little Beaver Tails. They go  
right into the hot oil at around 196  
degrees.

IDORA  
What's that in Fahrenheit?

CHEF PIERRE  
I don't know, let's ask the machine.  
How about 385? You see, I can press  
a button on the Flash Fryer and it  
will display the temperature in  
Fahrenheit or Celsius.

IDORA  
That's pretty cool, especially if you  
are cooking exotic, international  
dishes.

CHEF PIERRE  
Oui, and look here, to further show  
the whole international features of  
this fryer, we have a button where  
you can change it from a 24 hour  
clock to metric time. Now take a  
look at this...

INSERT

We see the dough cooking in the fryer.

CHEF PIERRE (V.O.)

Whenever you fry, you have to make sure you don't crowd it. It's like a hot tub, no? Two at a time is best I think, maybe three. Look at that, they're ready already to be turned. You want them to be slightly underdone for this presentation. You see it doesn't take long at all.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

CHEF PIERRE

Take them out of the oil and drain them on some paper towels. While they are still hot, I like to put like a Popsicle stick in them about a quarter of the way. Then you need to dip it into my maple syrup rum sauce, the recipe is in my book, and sprinkle with confectioners sugar. Holding onto the stick, you take your torch and set fire to the little tails.

He fires up the acetylene torch and proceeds to aim at the beaver tails. Because of the rum, the confections erupt in flame.

CHEF PIERRE (cont.)

Such a dramatic entrance for your dessert, no?

IDORA

(chuckling)

You've done it again, Chef, created a wonderful meal and...I think your sleeve is on fire.

Chef Pierre starts flapping his arm and shouting in French off mic while a stagehand dusts him with a fire extinguisher.

IDORA

OK, that's it for this segment, stay online if you're ordering any items from the Chef Pressure collection, and you can always tweet the chef at [chefpierre@233](mailto:chefpierre@233). Compulsives, we'll catch you on the other side of the hour, we've got the people from Gemholtz.

(MORE)

IDORA (cont.)  
 The Gemholtz Satellite Safety System  
 is more than just a GPS, it's an  
 entire network of safety  
 professionals doing their best to  
 provide you with the state of the art  
 in security. That's coming up next,  
 don't go anywhere.

Idora scrunches up her face and smiles, giving the shopping  
 gesture.

IDORA (cont.)  
 Happy Shopping!

INSERT

We see Max's tablet, it shows somebody's picture and  
 personnel file.

MAX (V.O.)  
 Do you stay? Nah.

Gives the tablet a dismissive wave and the file goes into  
 the recycle bin and another picture and file comes up.

MAX (V.O. cont.)  
 What about you? I think not.

Max repeats dismissive wave.

We hear knocking on the door.

MAX (V.O. cont.)  
 (muttering)  
 Now what? My next sacking isn't for  
 another 15 minutes.  
 (loudly)  
 What? Enter.

INT. PORTIA/MAX'S OFFICE - DAY

JERRY WEISKOPF, an impeccably dressed older man enters the  
 office.

MAX  
 Do I know you?

JERRY

Hi, I'm Jerry, Jerry Weiskopf. You must be Max Arbitrage. Nice to meet you. Do you have a moment?

MAX

Not...really.

Max starts to call security.

JERRY

Well I'll make it quick, then. There has been an injunction filed against Animus Equity Global. This is your copy of that action.

Jerry opens a briefcase and removes a stack of papers.

MAX

Injunction? What kind of bullshit is that? You can't sue AEG, we own the network.

JERRY

We'll I'm afraid that's just it. That ownership is being contested and while it is, I've been appointed as the overseer, caretaker, what have you.

MAX

You've got to be joking. Even assuming that there's a shred of truth in what you're saying, why would the court send someone from the Bloody Jurassic Era to handle this.

JERRY

Well, I have had extensive retail experience. You've heard of Weiskopf's?

MAX

(shakes his head no)  
What is that, a deli?

JERRY

(patient despite  
Max's slur)  
Weiskopf's was a chain of 32 department stores that operated throughout the Eastern seaboard.

(MORE)

JERRY (cont.)

My grandfather, Jacob Weiskopf, started out with a single haberdashery in Atlantic City. My dad, Elliot Weiskopf, turned that into the famous chain.

MAX

I'm sorry, but I've really never heard of...

JERRY

(slightly deaf)

Weiskopf's was known for having the most beautiful store clerks. We called them associates along with their first name, "Associate Betty, could you assist the customer in the Men's furnishing department". Like that. All the associates were famous for wearing our distinctive pink coats and white gloves. Women shoppers particularly appreciated being able to instantly tell who was working and who was a customer. Plus it added a certain stability and class to the whole store and a connection to all of the other stores in the chain. "Associate Mary, could you assist the gentleman in cosmetics?" Like that.

(pauses)

Where was I?

MAX

(under his breath)

Un-bloody believable.

JERRY

I suppose it doesn't matter. The important thing is they all were dressed in our distinctive pink coats and white gloves. "Associate Francis could you assist the woman in homewares?" Like that. Thirty-two stores up and down the Eastern seaboard.

MAX

Could you...

(hand motion)

...shut the door?

JERRY

Personally, I like an open door policy. One of the first things we always did when we opened a new store was to take all of the doors out of the building, with exception of the restrooms and front doors, of course. I think we should institute a similar policy at this network. No secrets, everything out in the open. Helps to foster an environment of mutual respect.

MAX

You're not just ancient, you're bloody mad.

JERRY

What's that? Well I suppose I have been around the block a few times.

We hear a timid knock on the door. Idora enters followed by the drone.

IDORA

You wanted to see me Mr. Arbitrage?

MAX

What?

IDORA

The email said 15 minutes past. I'm off for the next 30 minutes. What did you want to talk about?

MAX

(trying to get his  
bluster back)

Oh yes, Idora, right? We'll I've been meeting with key employees to establish their importance to this enterprise. We've got a long way to go to...

JERRY

(interrupting)

Idora? Idora Hernandez?

IDORA

(on guard)

Oh God, please don't tell me you were at the stupid bug party.

JERRY

What? No, I just want to say that my wife is a huge fan. When I came down here she said to make sure to say hello to Idora. She thinks you're nice and there aren't enough nice people out there these days, especially on cable.

IDORA

Well, thanks, that's...nice. But who are you?

Max is giving Idora the loco sign.

JERRY

I'm Jerry Weiskopf. I've been sent to run things here at the network until all the legal mumbo-jumbo gets resolved. Of course, you've heard of Weiskopf's, and yes, you're looking at one of 'em. My grandfather started the business and my father and I expanded it to 32 stores up and down the Eastern Seaboard. You remember how our girls were called Associates and wore pink jackets and white gloves? "Associate Betty to assist a customer in the jewelry aisle." Like that?

IDORA

(confused)

Uh huh.

MAX

(sing songy)

Idora, could you come here for a moment?

IDORA

Sure, what's...

She walks over to Max. The drone follows and is ignored.

MAX

(sotto voce)

I just Googled it. There hasn't been a Weiskopf's in almost 30 years. The last one was in Trenton, New Jersey and it closed down around 1990.

(MORE)

MAX (cont.)  
Also, I think this gentleman is not exactly...*compos mentis* if you know what I mean.

JERRY  
Idora?

IDORA  
Yes, Mr., uhm, Mr. Weiskopf?

JERRY  
Mr. Weiskopf was my father, Elliot, or my grandfather Jacob. You can call me Jerry. I was hoping you could give me a little tour? I need to know where everything is, plus I would like to meet the staff.

Idora gives Max a look of confusion.

IDORA  
(to Jerry)  
I, um, sure, I guess. I'd be happy to.  
(to Max)  
Mr. Arbitrage and I can have our talk later.

Idora walks over to Jerry and takes his arm.

IDORA (cont.)  
Can we start with the cafeteria? I have a craving for some pie.

JERRY  
Sounds fine, but I really need to use the restroom. I've got a prostate the size of a casaba.

The two start walking out followed by the drone.

DRONE POV

Idora and Jerry are arm in arm walking down the hallway.

JERRY(cont.)  
The main thing is that they all wore our distinctive pink jackets and white gloves. That's how you always knew you were in a Weiskopf's.

(MORE)

JERRY (cont.)

We called them associates, along with  
their first name: "Associate Karen to  
assist a customer in women's shoes."  
Like that.

MAX O.S.

Bloody ~~Fucking~~ Hell!

Black Out

CREDITS

SONG: PEPPY K-POP 강박 구매자 (The Obsessive Shopper)

SINGER

(shouted)

I'm compulsive!

(singing)

Sometimes I'm angry

Sometimes I'm sad

But I've got a secret

Something always makes me happy

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

Sometimes I feel sick

Sometimes I feel blue

But I've got a secret

I'm always happy shopping

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

(shouted)

신발, 옷, 목도리, 바지, 가방, 팔찌

(fade)

COMPULSIVE SHOPPING NETWORK  
#109 "Soft Shoe/Hard Sell"

Written by  
Dayle C. Hall

© 2017

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BLACK SCREEN

OPENING CREDITS

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(officious voice)

Compulsive buying disorder or CBD or oniomania, from the Greek onios "for sale" and manía or "insanity", is characterized by an obsession with shopping and buying behavior that often causes adverse consequences. YCSN is not responsible for any adverse consequences that may result from a pre-existing compulsive buying disorder. If you think you or someone you know is suffering from this condition please seek the help of a licensed professional. With proper treatment this condition can *sometimes* be successfully treated.

DESHWA'AN (V.O.)

Rima, Wha, Toru, Rua, Tahi

We hear five electronic blips of a time code.

We see the back of a hand counting down from five but out of sync from the countdown and the blips. After one (middle finger) the finger points away from the camera.

DRONE POV

Backstage. It's dark. We join an argument in progress between JAK and JACQUI ROY (pronounced Waugh). This is a husband and wife team promoting a product aimed at foot health. They are both dressed stylishly but they're getting a bit too old for their cute act. They've been struggling for a while and a shot on the network could be their big break.

We hear some music, think of a budget and royalty free version of Also Sprach Zarathustra. This is the soundtrack for a short intro for the Roy's segment. A deep voiced movie announcer provides the narration. This is in the background while the Roy's argue.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Scientists don't really know when it happened, but at one point, our early ancestors started walking upright. Along with stereoscopic vision and opposable thumbs, this change in locomotion from four feet to two caused humankind to take a giant step toward the future, setting off our ancestors on an amazing journey that transformed them from unholy apes to the majesty that is today's modern man. Unfortunately, with these giant steps came the pain from walking on rocky terrain, hot desert sand or ice cold frozen glaciers. Thus was born...Footwear!

We adapted to our surroundings by wearing various things on our feet such as plants, trees, fish scales, and animal skins which over time grew into such familiar footwear as moccasins, sandals, kothornoi, clogs, boots, flats, heels, waders, wingtips, and trainers. Today most everybody wears some form of footwear, both for protection and for style. But this protection and style comes at a price, because our footwear causes major problems that can fester into such conditions as Blisters, Bunions, Chronic Foot and Back Pain and Stink Foot.

JACQUI

(whispering)

I'm just saying don't tell the same...

JAK

(whispering)

What?

JACQUI

...same lame jokes, you know, like telling me that I've got my shoes on the wrong feet and I answer that these are the only feet I have.

JAK

What's wrong with that? It's clean, it's a little...

JACQUI

No! A-and nothing about shaking my  
booty.

JAK

Why not? Boots, Booty - it's funny.  
I'm not saying that it's Kimmel, or  
even Seth Meyers at his best, but it  
just establishes us as a cute couple.

JACQUI

And me as an idiot.

JAK

Jacqui, you're overthinking this.  
(combing his hair)  
Look, we've got a shot on the  
network, we've got the supply nailed,  
now we just have to smile for the  
cameras. You can do that, can't you?  
Shh. She's announcing us. How do I  
look?

JACQUI

(wan smile)  
You look fine. What about me, huh?  
What about me?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "LAST CHANCE TO OWN SCHLÜB! AT A  
ONE TIME ONLY PRICE OF \$132.43!"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora introduces the next segment. She's starting to look  
pregnant.

IDORA

Welcome back, Compulsives! Stay on  
the line for those great deals on  
Schlüb!

(MORE)

IDORA (cont.)

I don't have to tell you that at these prices, our limited supply of Schlüb! won't last long.

(hand to earbud)

What's that? Oh, Oh. I'm sorry, Compulsives, but our supply of Schlüb! just sold out. Hate to say I told you so, but we all knew that a deal like this couldn't last. I don't know if we'll see any more of it in stock before the Holiday Season.

INSERT

Scroll at the bottom of the screen: "SCHLÜB! ITEM SCH3230 SOLD OUT. THANK YOU."

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "FEET FIRST! WITH JAK AND JACQUI ROY"

IDORA

Well, moving on now, we're pleased to bring a new couple into the network family, Jak and Jacqui Roy in a segment we call Feet First! Jak and Jacqui, come on in and tell our Compulsives all about this fabulous and comprehensive product.

Jak and Jacqui enter, Jak with a false bravado and Jacqui smiling and a little nervous

JAK

Hi Idora, great to finally meet you.

Jak gives Idora a handshake that is a bit too strong. Idora tries not to react, but does.

JAK (cont.)

I'd like you to meet my lovely wife of nearly 13 years, Jacqui.

Jacqui smiles and waves at Idora, who physically positions Jacqui to face the camera.

IDORA  
Camera's over there, dear.

Jacqui stiffly turns and waves toward the camera.

IDORA (cont.)  
(to Jak)  
I have to say that when we first  
learned of your product line, there  
was a little skepticism...

INT. PORTIA/MAX'S OFFICE - DAY

Jerry, Idora, Deshwa'an, Manager Fu and the Assistant  
(taking notes on her tablet) are seated and Max is pacing  
with what looks like a ball of clay in his hand.

MAX  
Really? This is the best you can do?  
A ball of putty for bloody footwear?

MANAGER FU  
(only a little  
looped on Y-Teixna)  
S'not just footwear, it's a  
comprehensive...

MAX  
Yes, yes, I know. A comprehensive  
foot care system. Everybody's got a  
bloody system.

DESHWA'AN  
Hey, everybody's got feet.

MAX  
And half the population has a bloody  
vagina, but we haven't stooped to  
selling a comprehensive pussy care  
system, right?

JERRY  
(looking at a paper  
brochure)  
I don't know...they look like a nice  
couple. Promoting a sense of family  
is good thing. Family was one of the  
cornerstones of Weiskopf's formula  
for success.

MAX

Right, and you had all your little tarts run around in pink negligees and white rubber gloves. Associate Jenny, hand job at the customer service desk.

(looks at Jerry)

And...like...that. Jesus, we're all a little sick of the story, Jerry.

IDORA

Can we get back on track?

JERRY

(blankly)

Who's driving this train?

MAX

I'm steering this ship. And I've got final say on whether we go with a segment or not.

ASSISTANT

I'm confused. Are we a train or are we...

DESHWA'AN

(interrupting)

Manager Fu has worked hard on securing this deal. I think we should reward that work.

MANAGER FU

S'not a bad product. Everybody has some kind of foot problem, right? Somebody I know has these gross calluses on their feet.

Deshwa'an and Idora discreetly feel their heels.

MANAGER FU (cont.)

Sometimes I'll get shooting back pains from wearing heels all day. My cousin's uncle has diabetic neuropathy and is always in pain. Plus, everybody is concerned about the way their feet smell, right?

DESHWA'AN

Sure, it's not a recognized product,  
but I think she's right, this can  
speak to a lot of people.

MAX

I don't know. Where's the pizzazz?  
I mean orthotics?

ASSISTANT

Sometimes my feet...

DESHWA'AN

Besides, the margins are great, and  
the supply chain...

MAX

(interrupting)

You're not just going along with  
this, you're actually championing Ms.  
Fu's idea.

(thinks)

Why?

(it dawns on him)

Ah, I know.

(chuckles)

You're shagging her, right? Oh my  
God, now it all makes perfect bloody  
sense.

MANAGER FU

What?

MAX

Or if you're not, you're trying to,  
am I right?

DESHAWA'AN:

This has nothing to do with whether  
Manager Fu and myself...I mean, not  
that we are

(looks at Manager Fu)

or aren't. It's immaterial, OK?

This segment has its own merits...

MAX

Jesus, you two. I should have known.  
Well that's another point against...

IDORA

Speaking of points, can we get to it?  
I've got an appointment to get to and  
I'm feeling bloated.

MAX

Idora, dear, please refrain from  
discussing personal...issues of that  
sort.

IDORA

Sorry, but it's the truth. I'm  
blowing up like a water balloon full  
of urine and I need to get out of  
here. So what's the decision? Do we  
go with Feet First! or not?

JERRY

Myself, sure, I could use a restroom  
break.

MAX

(exasperated)  
But we just bloody started.  
(to Idora)  
Right then, what do you think?

JERRY

I say we give them a chance. They  
look like a nice couple.

ASSISTANT

I think that everybody...

MAX

Not you. Or You.  
(points to Idora)  
Her. I was talking to the one who's  
complaining for two. The one who's  
bloated.

ASSISTANT

(to herself)  
I'm just saying...

IDORA

(not taking offense  
or not caring)  
I don't know. I mean, it's not the  
worst thing we've had on air.

MAX

Ah bulls-eye. A ringing endorsement, that.

(TV Huckster voice)

Come on, Compulsives, this new product ain't half bad, you may or may not like it! I mean it's not complete ~~shit~~!

IDORA

(a bit frustrated)

Well I'm not a...focus group. But I think it's worth a shot.

(to Manager Fu)

You've checked out their ability to deliver the product, right?

MANAGER FU

Relax. No worries.

DESHWA'AN

(sotto voce to

Manager Fu)

You've been saying that a lot these days.

Manager Fu briefly stares at Deshwa'an and then looks at Idora, maybe she's having a little trouble focusing.

MANAGER FU

It's all good.

(professional)

By which I mean that I have thoroughly researched their claims and they can easily meet all but the most unrealistically high product demand.

Manager Fu slumps back in her chair.

DESHWA'AN

Look, if you're worried about the couple, we can always get somebody to play the part of a foot doctor...

ASSISTANT

Podiatrist.

DESHWA'AN  
 Sure, whatever. Manager Fu, what  
 about that actor that we had for  
 the...you know...D.D.T...

MAX  
 Do not mention that word to me!

ASSISTANT  
 What, durian?

MAX  
 What did I say? What did I say?!

IDORA  
 (under her breath)  
 Ah, the fruit of which we dare not  
 speak its name...

MAX  
 Really?  
 (shakes his head)  
 OK, all of you, get out of here. I  
 guess we go with this stupid bloody  
 foot thing...

ASSISTANT  
 What are we selling again?

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "FEET FIRST! WITH JAK AND JACQUI  
 ROY"

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "ITEM FF003A TOTAL FOOT CARE  
 MANAGEMENT SYSTEM \$59.39 PLUS S&H"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora, Jak and Jacqui continue the Feet First! segment.

JAK  
...a total foot care management  
system.

IDORA  
OK, this is...  
(hand to earbud)  
Item FF003A, only sixty dollars plus  
shipping and handling. Why don't you  
tell our Compulsives what they get  
when they...

JAK  
(interrupting)  
When your Compulsives order our Total  
Foot Care Management System, they  
will get everything they need to  
promote the comfort and health of  
both their feet and their bodies.

Jak looks over at Jacqui waiting for a response from her.

JAK (cont.)  
I said both your feet and...

JACQUI is visibly upset that Jak has started the routine but  
grudgingly goes along with it.

JACQUI  
*Both* my feet?

JAK  
(fake laugh)  
That's right silly, both of them.

Jacqui glowers at Jak.

JAK (cont.)  
Idora, we all know that anyone can  
scan television channels or surf the  
web and they'll see many individual  
products designed to help you take  
better care of your feet. These are  
all fine products. But what Feet  
First! offers is everything you need  
for better foot health in one  
comprehensive package.

IDORA

I see. So could you explain to our Compulsives what they get when they order the Feet First! Total Foot Care Management System?

JACQUI

(jumping in)

Well they...

JAK

(interrupting)

They get relief from the myriad problems that can plague their feet. Corns or blisters? Fallen Arches? Shoes too tight? I know Jacqui used to have issues with her feet all the time.

(chuckles)

One time she was complaining about foot pain and it turned out that she had put her shoes on the wrong feet!

Jacqui stares blankly at the floor and speaks softly.

JACQUI

What do you mean, they're the only feet I have.

JAK

What's that?

JACQUI

(louder)

I said, what do you mean, they're the only feet I have!

(under her breath)

Happy now?

Idora tries to ignore the amateur patter and turns to Jak.

IDORA

Total care. What does that mean?

JAK

(a little unnerved)

It means just that. It's all in this package.

IDORA

Wow, I was expecting something bigger. It's no bigger than a shoe box!

We see a close up of a shoe box sized package. Jak takes what looks like a lump of clay out of the box.

JAK (V.O.)

I know, right? Take a look at this.

IDORA (V.O.)

I don't get it. That just looks like a little ball of clay. Surely that can't do all that much?

JAK (V.O.)

You'd think that, but you would be wrong. This material conforms to any shoe and transforms into an insert with some amazing properties. But don't let me try to convince you, let's introduce renown Podiatrist Ollie Jones.

Dr. OLLIE JONES is, of course, Alfred "Fred" Fredrickson, the hammy actor used in the D.D.T. Segment. Dr. Ollie is dressed as if he just came from a surgery. As he walks in, he turns and looks at the camera as if he's just noticing it for the first time.

DR. OLLIE

Oh, hello there. I'm Dr. Ollie Jones, DPM. You know, surgery can be challenging and maybe even a little fun, but there's nothing funny about cutting off someone's foot. Feet are important, without them you couldn't walk or run or even stand in place. You'd fall right over! Doctors want you to spend up to four hours a day on your feet and some jobs, like mine, can require you to remain standing for even longer periods of time. As a podiatrist, I'm familiar with many of the products out on today's market. I have found Feet First! to be an excellent product which promotes healthy feet.

Dr. Ollie displays a two-toned ball of clay toward the camera.

DR. OLLIE (cont.)  
The secret is in the time release  
properties of this little ball.

We see the two-toned ball of clay being flattened into a shoe.

DR. OLLIE (V.O.)  
As you can see, this ball is made up  
of two layers. You simply insert the  
ball dark side down into any shoe and  
then press down. This dark side has  
some unique polymers that actually  
conform and lock onto the inside of  
the shoe and expand the shoe wall out  
up to a couple of millimeters.

The doctor continues while Jak and Jacqui argue.

DR. OLLIE (V.O. cont.)  
This gives your foot a little more  
room. This is particularly  
important, because the longer you  
stand or walk, the more compressed  
your feet get. This extra room  
provides a level of comfort and keeps  
your feet feeling fresh. But it  
doesn't stop there. The lighter  
layer actually uses your body's own  
electricity to create a wave action  
in the insert and this wave action  
gently massages the bottom of your  
feet. As amazing as this is, this  
upper layer also has patented  
medicinal properties that have been  
shown to be effective in reducing the  
size of corns, bunions and warts,  
while leaving the bottom of your  
feet - especially the heels - looking  
and feeling soft and smooth.

DRONE POV

The drone is hovering over Jak, Jacqui and Idora with Dr.  
Ollie continuing his spiel off to the side. Idora is  
getting a touch-up on her makeup while Jak and Jacqui start  
arguing again.

JACQUI

(upset, but  
whispering)

I thought we weren't going to do the same routine.

JAK

(whispering)

Jacqui, baby, this is the big time. We have to stick with what works. If we can get into a regular rotation on the network, we'll make your dad's investment pay off in no time.

JACQUI

But I told you, I'm sick of playing the part of the dumb blonde. I'm the one who went to a real college. It's not just dad's money here, I came up with a lot of things - the logo, the name, I even had the original idea.

JAK

Well yeah, you dropped a ball of silly putty into a shoe. Someone

(points to his own  
chest)

had to realize the potential in that. So what do you want, huh? Look, once we're established, we can fine tune the routine and maybe even let me be the dumb guy sometimes, huh? But later, babe. Right now let's get through it and...

JACQUI

No.

JAK

No? What do you mean, no?

Jacqui takes off her mic and looks Jak in the eye.

JACQUI

I said no. I'm not putting up with this anymore, I won't do these stupid jokes anymore. You're always making fun of me. It's abuse is what it is and I'm sick and tired of this abuse.

JACQUI (cont.)  
 (frustrated scream)  
 Go play with your own damn little balls!

Jacqui storms off the set. Idora notices this and walks up to Jak.

IDORA  
 Is everything OK?

JAK  
 (off his game)  
 Sure, she's not feeling well, I think she's a..a...little nervous.

IDORA  
 (suspicious)  
 O...K. Are you ready? They're counting us down.

JAK  
 Sure, sure. No problem. No problem.

IDORA  
 You're saying everything twice.

JAK  
 What?  
 (looks at her)  
 What?

We see a close up of a model massaging her feet, pure porn for those with a foot fetish.

DR. OLLIE (V.O.)  
 Think of it, a product that's easy to use, expands your shoe size as the day progresses, massages your feet, reduces the size of corns, bunions and warts, and makes the bottom of your feet silky smooth and smelling terrific. That's because there are tiny microlite pieces of charcoal that absorb sweat and odors for up to three whole days! I honestly can't tell you how long I've been a podiatrist and I've never been as impressed with a foot care product as I am with "Feet First!".

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "FEET FIRST! WITH JAK AND JACQUI ROY"

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "ITEM FF003A TOTAL FOOT CARE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM \$59.39 PLUS S&H"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Dr. Ollie finishes his bit while Idora and Jak come into view again to continue the segment (without Jacqui).

DR. OLLIE

I not only wholeheartedly endorse Feet First!, I actually use the product, and make it a point to tell all my patients about the amazing properties of these small little balls. If you spend a lot of time on your feet, do yourself a favor and put your Feet First! You can thank me later.

We hear light applause from crew.

IDORA

Thanks, Dr. Ollie.

(turns to Jak)

So tell us, how did you come up with this idea?

JAK

It was kind of fortuitous.

Jak waits for a comment from Jacqui and becomes more uncomfortable when he realizes she's not there and he'll have to modify his script.

JAK (cont.)

That's because the two of us

(MORE)

JAK (cont.)  
um, together had, have, have, four  
feet. So it was kind of For Two of  
us?

(crickets)  
Well, I was playing with a piece of  
silly putty, remember that stuff?  
And uh, uh, I um accidentally dropped  
it into a shoe, and then the  
inspiration hit me! Why not put this  
putty in my shoe. I mean I already  
had, but, you know, on purpose like.  
Of course, the product has changed a  
lot since then, but...

DRONE POV

Jacqui is in a hallway, slumped up against the wall, softly  
crying. Manager Fu is walking down the hall, sees her and  
stops.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Drone flies down the hall and then comes back, slowly flying  
in and out of the shot

MANAGER FU  
Can I help you? Is everything  
alright?

JACQUI  
No. I'm fine.

MANAGER FU  
Ms. Roy, Jacqui, is that you?

JACQUI  
Manager Fu?  
(she turns around)

MANAGER FU  
What are you doing here? Aren't you  
supposed to be on air?

JACQUI  
Yeah, well...I think I had an  
epiphany.

MANAGER FU  
What's that?

JACQUI

An epiphany is a sudden and striking revelation...

MANAGER FU

No, I know...what I mean is, what was your epiphany?

JACQUI

Huh? Oh that.  
(clears throat)  
All men are slugs.

MANAGER FU

Well, I don't know about all of 'em, but a lot of 'em are, maybe most of them, that's for sure. Slugs, snails and puppy dog tails. From little boys to little men, not a heck of a lot of difference, right? Here.

Manager Fu reaches into her purse and pulls out a bottle of Y-Teixna. She hands it to Jacqui.

MANAGER FU (cont.)

Try this. It's worked wonders for me.

JACQUI

What is it?

MANAGER FU

Peace of mind in a small bottle. Go ahead.

Manager Fu gets her own bottle out of her purse and they toast.

INT. PORTIA/MAX'S OFFICE - DAY

Max is on the phone with Brock Pounder

MAX

I'm telling you Brock, the court stuck this eldritch fossil in our lap and now everything is a bloody discussion that never goes anywhere but around in circles.

(MORE)

MAX (cont.)

We can't make any decisions without this Weiskopf fellow rambling on and on and on. When he's not challenging my decisions, his going on about the good old days when ladies wore pink jackets and gloves and gas was a quarter a gallon. It's like some museum curio come to life, the Curse of the Retail Mummy or something and it's pissing me off.

Max looks toward the air duct.

MAX (cont.)

(aside)

What's that smell?

(into phone)

What?

INT. AIR DUCT - DAY

Portia is crammed in the air duct looking very distressed while filming Max through the grates with her phone. Lizbeth is almost on top of her. Portia unsuccessfully tries to hide the fact that Lizbeth stinks.

LIZBETH

(whispering)

What are we...?

PORTIA

(whispering)

Shhh. (She nods her head toward Max)

PORTIA'S PHONE POV

MAX

How can their board...? Yes I know, but...well it's not right, if they keep this up there won't be anything left to plunder in this network. What? Oh, sorry, it's this ship metaphor thing, plundering, you know? I suppose I fancy myself a bit of a corporate pirate, arr! What? No, no, I'm joking...it's a long story.

Max looks toward the duct again, picks up wire-bound brochure and slaps it against the grate as Lizbeth and Portia react. Max calls out to whatever he thinks is in the duct.

INT. PORTIA/MAX'S OFFICE - DAY

MAX (cont.)  
Shoo, get the ~~fuck~~ out of there.

He slaps the grate a few more times.

MAX (cont.)  
(into phone)  
What? No, not you, there's...I think something died in the ducting. It smells awful. Yeah, I'll talk to the maintenance guy. But look here, Brock, we've got to move fast if we want any piece of this network. Yeah, I understand, but...well screw the courts, OK? I'll...I'll, if you'll just shut up, I tell you what I think. Fine. I think we should act anyway, take what we want and bugger the consequences. What's the worst that could happen, especially in the, you know, current climate? I'll tell you what, a fine and a slap on the wrist. Hmm? Yes, that's exactly what I'm saying. Uh huh. Damn right, agent bloody orange, scorched earth, the nuclear option. Unleash the ~~fuckin~~g Kraken! What's that? No, I don't fancy a meal, but I could use a drink. No, that's OK. Right, later.

Max hangs up the phone and sniffs the air with a disgusted look on his face.

MAX (cont.)  
(to himself)  
What's the number for that bloody maintenance fellow?

Max starts to text Deshwa'an on his phone.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Deshwa'an and Assistant are working.

We hear Deshwa'an's text tone for Max (Ride of the Valkyries).

ASSISTANT

What's that?

DESHWA'AN

(looks at phone)

It's a text from Max. He wants Maricio's number? Do you have it?

ASSISTANT

(faraway look)

Maricio?

INT. SUPERMARKET - NIGHT

We hear elevator music

The Assistant and Maricio are in a supermarket smiling blissfully and loading up their shopping cart with Durians.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Deshwa'an snaps his fingers in front of Assistant's face.

DESHWA'AN

Hello? Anybody there?

ASSISTANT

What? Sorry.

(shakes head)

Why does Mr. Arbitrage want Maricio's number?

DESHWA'AN

(reads the text)

He says he wants to fumigate the air ducts? Something about vermin? It's not very clear.

ASSISTANT

Well, give me Mr. Arbitrage's number. I'll text Maricio.

(looks up)

Ouch.

DESHWA'AN  
What? You OK?

ASSISTANT  
Me? I'm fine.

She points toward the monitor where Jak is still hocking his product.

ASSISTANT  
But I don't think he's doing too well.

DESHWA'AN  
The foot guy? Crashing and burning, yeah, he can't do this solo. Without his partner he's lost his mojo.  
(sighs)  
I suppose we'll take the blame for this...

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "FEET FIRST! WITH JAK AND JACQUI ROY"

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "ITEM FF003A TOTAL FOOT CARE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM \$59.39 PLUS S&H"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Jak continue the segment. Jak is sweating from the lights and is coming unglued.

JAK  
Well, to answer the caller's question, we really can't guarantee exactly how long the package will last.

(MORE)

JAK (cont.)

We do recommend changing your balls every three days, and you get approximately a month's worth...um... but that depends on each individual, how big or small your balls, I mean feet are, how many pairs of shoes you have, how big....did I say how big your feet are? I mean, how smelly...

IDORA

What about cleaning the insides of the shoes afterward?

JAK

A breeze, Idora. It...comes right out.

He starts trying to clean out the insert but long strands are still connected to the shoe - like stretching pizza cheese.

JAK (cont.)

Normally. I don't know why...well sometimes it gets a little stuck, I think it may depend on the...I mean what the shoe is made out of...

IDORA

(sensing failure)

That's OK, Jak. Ok, Compulsives, less than sixty dollars plus shipping and handling for a complete footcare system. Try to beat that! Thank you Jak and thank you Jacqui and Dr. Ollie wherever you are.

(small ironic bow)

Stay tuned, we've got a full hour coming up of

(energized)

Happy Frank's Meat Lockers! Happy Shopping!

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DESHWA'AN

(Into mic) Cue Magic Pencil promo in Panj, Chahar, Se, Do, Yek

Magic Pencil Promo continues in background

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
How many times has this happened to  
you?

SFX: Snap of pencil breaking

WOMAN (V.O.)  
Darn it, my pencil lead has broken  
again.

We hear the sound of an electric pencil sharpener.

ASSISTANT  
(turns to Deshwa'an)  
You know that countdown thing you do?  
Just how many languages do you know?

DESHWA'AN  
87.

ASSISTANT  
87? Wow?

DESHWA'AN  
Actually, I can only count to five in  
around 87 languages. Thought it  
would make me smarter, but about all  
the good it's done is won me a few  
bar bets. What about you?

ASSISTANT  
(Proudly)  
Estoy chupando Español.

Subtitle: I'm sucking Spanish.

DESHWA'AN  
(distracted)  
Yeah, great. Good luck with that.

WOMAN (V.O.)  
At this rate there won't be much left  
of my pencil. Why doesn't somebody  
make a pencil where the point stays  
sharp and stays hard?

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
Well guess what? Somebody has!  
Announcing the Grafton Miracle  
Pencil! It's guaranteed to stay  
sharp and stay...

DESHWA'AN

Man, that foot guy was lost. I'd be surprised if we sold ten of those packages.

ASSISTANT

Seemed like a good idea, but yeah, talk about not ready for prime time.

DESHAW'AN:

(into mic)

Good Job Idora, that was pretty tough. Thanks for keeping it on track.

(to Assistant)

Did you ever get Arbitrage's message into Muricio?

We see the Assistant's face with a far off look in her eyes.

DRONE POV

In a hallway, a custodian is pushing a large plastic trash bin with some effort. As the drone gets closer we see that it's Portia wearing a blue jumpsuit and a scarf. Inside the trash bin is Lizbeth, collecting food-like particles and sticking them into a couple of small, clear plastic storage bins.

PORTIA

(looks at the drone)

Oh, it's you again. Hello. Tell your bosses they're going to be out of a job soon.

Portia looks around and ducks into a utility closet.

INT. UTILITY CLOSET - DAY

Portia takes out her phone and dials a number.

INSERT

We see a close up of the phone, the name in the display is Chairman Mung.

INT. UTILITY CLOSET - DAY

PORTIA

Chairman, this is Ms. DeSoto. I'm fine, thanks for asking. I'm wondering, did Frank...he did? So what do you say? The others? They received similar packages. Cruel? Not in the least, believe me when I say this Chairman Mung, I do this with no malice whatsoever. I just need to get back what is rightfully mine. I'm afraid that your pleading won't get you...Didn't Frank explain it? We truly don't want to reveal these things. I understand how it might look. Um. No, that won't do. Consequences? If even one of you were to try that I would be forced to release everything. Yes, that's right, everything on everybody. It's not something I would relish, but you would leave me with no choice. So you'll bring the motion forward tomorrow? And I can count on your support? Grand. I'm going to hang up now as you have a lot of phone calls to make. Chairman, I'm surprised! That's not very nice. Chairman! I'm hanging up now.

After hanging up and to nobody in particular.

PORTIA

Tool.

The door opens and Lizbeth enters the closet. It's a very tight fit and Portia reacts to the fact that Lizbeth doesn't smell very well.

LIZBETH

What are we working on?

PORTIA

I don't know what you're doing. I'm working on a plan.

LIZBETH

What's that?

PORTIA

(distracted)

It's a detailed proposal for doing or achieving something...

## DRONE POV

The drone is hovering in the reception area. Suze is talking with Jamie, the FastExpress/Big Package Guy. Suze points toward her tablet screen.

SUZE

I don't know. When I was a kid, it was a game with my dad and we weren't really investing, just make buying make believe shares in companies. Now I buy them for real.

JAMIE

That's pretty impressive, I can't even balance my checkbook. Not that there's anything in there...I mean, if the balance is zero, is that a balance? Or is that like saying there's no score when a game is zero to zero?

(looks at her screen)

Are you like buying stocks right now?

SUZE

Shares? No, I did it on my lunch break, about an hour ago. There's... this company I've been keeping my eye on. It's value fluctuates a lot and lately there's been a lot of small fry getting rid of their shares. So I'm picking them up, one by one.

(smiles)

I've actually acquired quite a lot.

JAMIE

So are you going to become some high-powered business tycoon?

SUZE

Not sure. I don't do it for the power, it's more of a...well game is really the wrong word but that's kind of what it's like. I just have a good feeling about it.

JAMIE

So you're going to make all this money and then retire?

SUZE

Nah. I like my job just fine. So how's the band going?

JAMIE

Good, man. Actually, great! Seo-Yeon really liked your concept of changing the song to something about shopping. You know what's funny?

SUZE

What?

JAMIE

You know how you say shopping in Korean?

SUZE

No.

JAMIE

It's shopping. *Shopping*, is that crazy or what?

INT. PORTIA/MAX'S OFFICE - DAY

Deshwa'an, Assistant and Jerry are seated as Max is once again pacing, laying into Manager Fu.

MAX

What the hell was that? It's one thing that the product was more than just a wee bit underwhelming, but those hosts, what the hell were you thinking? We could have got a couple of wasted punters from the local pub and they could have slurred, stuttered and vomited up three day old pasties for an hour and they still would have done a better job. What the ~~fuck~~ Manager Fu, did you bother to perform any kind of due diligence?

MANAGER FU

I'm sorry, but when I was interviewing them, they seemed OK. They had a couple of YouTube videos that looked OK. They had a lot of likes on their Facebook page. I thought it would be...

(softly)

OK.

MAX

Christ, can you give me one reason why I should let you continue working here if this is the kind of train wre...

(looks at Jerry)

shipwreck we can expect from your segments? What? Nothing?

MANAGER FU

I'm sorry sir, I'm...sorry.

MAX

Is it that stuff you've been drinking? What is it, some kind of energy drink?

ASSISTANT

It's actually the opposite...sir.

Manager Fu looks at Assistant and mutters under her breath.

MANAGER FU

Narc.

MAX

Well that would explain a lot, wouldn't it? You're walking around looped on this stuff, no wonder you can't keep it together.

DESHWA'AN

Max, Mr. Arbitrage, Manager Fu has been under a lot of stress lately, hell, we've all been under a lot of stress lately, not knowing if we have a job or not. And I don't think anybody could have predicted that the...feet couple.

JERRY

(Musing)

They did look like a nice couple...

DESHWA'AN

...predicted that they would choose that moment to get into a fight. We saw a little bit in the run-through and the two had an pretty good act,

(MORE)

DESHWA'AN (cont.)  
kind of corny, sure but it could've  
played well with our main target  
demo...

MAX  
Sticking up for her again, I see.

DESHWA'AN  
Damn straight. You've got no idea  
what kind of talent you have here.

MAX  
You're right there, Deshwa'an. I  
haven't seen any exemplars among any  
of our little troupe. Quite the  
contrary.

MANAGER FU  
(to Dehswa'an)  
Don't.  
(slurring her words  
a bit)  
That's it. I've had it.  
(to Max)  
~~Fuck~~ you and ~~fuck~~ Animus Equity. I  
didn't sign on for this kind of  
abuse.

Manager Fu storms out while Max yells at her back.

MAX  
And to think I once thought you were  
one of the good employees.  
(to the whole group)  
You lot are losing it, and I've run  
out of bloody patience. Just you  
wait!

Deshwa'an leaves after Manager Fu. Max calls out after him.

MAX (cont.)  
Can't take the heat, eh sailor? Well  
like the man said, the beatings will  
continue until morale improves!

DRONE POV

Idora is in a hallway, talking on the phone.

IDORA

Yeah, I think we should meet as well.  
I don't know, no not here, it's  
already too uncomfortable around  
here. I'm still upset at the way I  
was...treated - a pool, can you  
believe it? What? Well for now, if  
you have to come here, just, I don't  
know, just act normally, OK? Nobody  
needs to know. No, I'm fine. OK...  
OK.

She hangs up and looks toward the ceiling, shaking her head.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "Happy Frank's Meat Lockers!"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

We see a set full of gym lockers and meat.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

And now, here he is, the Mayor of  
Mortadella, the King of Coppa, the  
Prince of Prosciutto, the Prime  
Minister of Prime Rib, he puts the  
Salam in Salami and the Swagger in  
Braunschweiger, the man who's always  
happy to "meat" you, Happy Frank  
featuring Happy Frank's Meat Lockers!

We hear applause on the set.

HAPPY FRANK bounds in from Stage Right wearing jeans, a  
white t-shirt and a large cross around his neck which looks  
like it's made from bacon. Happy Frank is maybe in his late  
30's and he's got a meat gut and a flushed complexion.

HAPPY FRANK

Hi Compulsives and Meatheads! Whew,  
I'm a little out of breath.

(MORE)

HAPPY FRANK (cont.)  
 Sorry we were running a little late,  
 but it's all good now, right? And  
 it's time for our usual call and  
 response, this is where I ask: What  
 do you want?

CREW (O.S.)

Meat!

HAPPY FRANK  
 And when do you want it?

CREW (O.S.)  
 Now!

We hear more ragged applause.

HAPPY FRANK  
 Well then, let's not waste any time  
 and get right on with it, shall we?  
 Take a look at these items Meatheads,  
 HJML5222 and HJML5223K, each for  
 under five hundred dollars.

INSERT

Scroll at the bottom of the screen: "HFML5222 AND HFML5223K  
 \$493.22 PLUS SHIPPING AND HANDLING"

HAPPY FRANK  
 I know that might seem like a lot of  
 money, but you have to consider the  
 value! These are the Happy Franks'  
 Meat Lockers Holiday Bonanza. Once a  
 year, Compulsives, once a year!  
 After all, the holidays are right  
 under the corner and sometimes it's  
 hard to shop for certain people, am I  
 right? My wife always complains that  
 she doesn't know what to get me, but  
 the answer's simple, really. When it  
 gets right down to it, all I really  
 want is one of these special gift  
 lockers. So Donna, if you're  
 listening, take note of my needs and  
 pack me full of meat!

Happy Frank walks over to what looks like a gym locker  
 (combo lock etc.).

CREW (O.S.)  
Oooooooooohhhhh!

HAPPY FRANK  
Off course, your order will come in one of these small lockers and I have to say that these are very handy and reusable. I've even been told that some people consider these collectible, boy I wish I knew that when I started this company. The lock really works, and each locker has one of seven different combinations. But we don't care about the locker or the lock, do we. What do we really want?

CREW (O.S.)  
(more people than before)  
Meat!

HAPPY FRANK  
I can't hear you!

CREW (O.S.)  
(louder)  
Meat!  
(tribal chant)  
Meat Meat Meat Meat Meat Meat Meat  
Meat  
(softer and continuing under Happy Jack)  
Meat Meat Meat Meat Meat Meat Meat  
Meat (etc.)

INSERT

We see close ups of each meat product.

HAPPY FRANK (V.O.)  
Yeah, let me get this opened, mmm, just look at all the good stuff. Wow, *abbondanza*, a cornucopia of meat products. Look, a full five pounds of Dike Girl Dutch Loaf, and that's just for starters. You'll get ten Arrhythmia Farms foot long gourmet sausages. These are wine soaked and aged in cedar barrels and flavored with roasted garlic, Italian spices,  
(MORE)

HAPPY FRANK (V.O. cont.)  
pepperoncini and a hint of star of  
anise, cane sugar and coriander.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "Happy Frank's Meat Lockers!"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Happy Frank continues the segment.

HAPPY FRANK  
And of course, Arrhythmia Farms not  
only grow their own sustainable free-  
range livestock, but they ensure that  
every animal eats organic feed, is  
given plenty of space to roam and,  
(calmly and with  
respect)  
when the time comes, is put to death  
in the most humane fashion possible.  
(excited)  
By cramming their throats full of  
meat! Sure, maybe it's forced a  
little bit, but their little hearts  
explode from happiness! Arrhythmia  
farms guarantee that their sausages  
will never contain MRM or  
Mechanically Recovered Meat or rusk.  
Just pure, guilt free meat. Next,  
just look at this, it's Helmet  
Liebenstein's own Rügenwalde-style  
Teewurst, this comes in a fourteen  
pound package. Hey Meatheads, are  
you hungry yet?

CREW (O.S.)  
(mix of responses)  
Yeah, we're starving! Famished! Soooo  
Hungry!

INSERT

We see close ups of each meat product.

HAPPY FRANK (V.O.)

Well hold onto your forks, Meatheads! Here's three pounds of Famous Farms Prasky, and also from Famous Farms, a five pound Mortadella with Pistachios and Olives and a whopping ten pounds of Austrian Presswurst, formed with a replica of Mozart's death mask into a noble bust of head cheese.

CREW (O.S.)

Yeah!

HAPPY FRANK (V.O.)

So what do you think? Are your mouths watering yet, Meatheads? Wait a second, did somebody say Pastrami? Of course, and a full twenty pounds of it. We have this flown in direct from Bernard and David's Deli in Poughkeepsy and yes, the Greater Poughkeepsy Kosher Certification Agency grants each ten pound package their personal and highly respected hechsher. You hear that? It's certified! You just can't imagine the look on your meat lover's face when you stuff him with a couple pounds of fressers. Not to leave pork lovers out of it, we also include from Los Angeles' Famous Delirium Deli, twelve pounds of pre-pulled and seasoned pork.

CREW (O.S.)

Ahhhhh!

HAPPY FRANK (V.O.)

All you have to do is heat it up and you've got that smoky barbecue flavor straight from your microwave!

CREW (O.S.)

We want meat! We want meat! We want meat!

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right

INSERT

Text box in lower left: "Happy Frank's Meat Lockers!"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Happy Frank continues the segment.

HAPPY FRANK

Of course you do, we all hunger for nature's bounty of bovine and pork products. Look at this locker, this is over 66 pounds of meat and if you order now, and while supplies last, you'll receive an additional 20 pounds of Council Bluffs Burgers, the famous burgers with the infamous taste, Council Bluffs, just across the river from Omaha but *much* nastier. That's a fifty dollar value right there!

The crew responds with wild applause.

HAPPY FRANK (cont.)

Get yourself online or on the phone now! These deals won't last! Now excuse me while I get a knife and start opening up some of these packages. I've only got one question, Meatheads. Who's hungry?

The crew rushes the set and starts grabbing and attempting to devour all of the treats in the Meat Lockers or rubbing the meat against their bodies in an orgiastic fashion)

CREW

Me! I am! Outta my way! I'm hungry!  
Give me some meat!

HAPPY FRANK

Stay tuned, Compulsives, Idora is going to be back with some important products that could literally help keep your family alive. We're out of here for now. Happy Eating and Happy Shopping!

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

ASSISTANT

Where do all those people come from?

DESHWA'AN

Not sure, I mean some of them I recognize, but a lot of them, not so much. Say listen, can you finish the log? Dan will be in for Idora's next bit, I think all you have to do is run that pencil spot again after the network promo at the top of the hour.

ASSISTANT

Sure, no problem.

DESHWA'AN

Cool, thanks.

DRONE POV

Manager Fu is walking down the hall with a box (presumably filled with her personal effects and/or Y-Teixna. Deshwa'an intercepts her.

DESHWA'AN

Hey you.

MANAGER FU

Hey. Don't...don't try to stop me. I've had all I can stand of that bastard.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

DESHWA'AN

No, I get it. I just...I just don't think you should be alone tonight.

MANAGER FU  
I can look after myself.

DESHWA'AN  
Yeah, well that's not what I meant.

MANAGER FU  
Why, you think I'm addicted to this stuff?

DESHWA'AN  
I don't know. Maybe a little.

MANAGER FU  
What? You too?

DESHWA'AN  
Sure, but that's not...that's not the reason, OK?

MANAGER FU  
What are you saying?

DESHWA'AN  
I'm saying that...it's not just that.

MANAGER FU  
What? What is it then?

DESHWA'AN  
It's not just you, it's me too. I don't want to be...you know...alone tonight.

MANAGER FU  
I don't know D. I think I've got to...I've got get out of here.

DESHWA'AN  
OK, so let's go. I'll give you a hand with that.

Deshwa'an starts to take the box but Manager Fu doesn't let him.

MANAGER FU  
Don't.

Manager Fu starts to walk away.

DESHWA'AN  
(MORE)

Don't? Don't what?

MANAGER FU  
(not even turning  
around)

Don't try to help me. I don't need  
this right now. I need some time  
alone to think about some things, OK.

DESHWA'AN  
I can call...

MANAGER FU  
(turns around)  
D, don't...just give me some space,  
OK?

DESHWA'AN  
What? WHAT? ~~God damn~~ it!

Manager Fu turns around again and leaves. Deshwa'an does a  
half spin and punches the wall. He immediately regrets it,  
holding his hand in a great deal of pain.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

ASSISTANT  
(into mic)  
Cue Magic Pencil Supplement promo in  
five, four, three, two, one.  
(to herself)  
Damn, maybe I should do the  
countdowns in Spanish, then maybe  
Maricio would notice me.

Assistant starts doing housekeeping work on the log while  
the Magic Pencil Supplement Promo continues in background.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
How many times has this happened to  
you?

We hear a couple making love and then abruptly stopping.

MAN (V.O.)  
Sorry, honey.

WOMAN (V.O.)

Darn it, are you out of lead again?

We hear the sound of a vibrator starting up.

WOMAN (V.O.)

At this rate there's not much need  
for your pencil. Why doesn't  
somebody make a pencil that stays  
sharp and stays hard?

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Well guess what? Somebody has!  
Announcing the Grafton Miracle Pencil  
Supplement! It's guaranteed to help  
him stay sharp and stay...

Black Out

CREDITS

SONG: PEPPY K-POP 강박 구매자 (The Obsessive Shopper)

SINGER

(shouted)

I'm compulsive!

(singing)

Sometimes I'm angry

Sometimes I'm sad

But I've got a secret

Something always makes me happy

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

Sometimes I feel sick

Sometimes I feel blue

But I've got a secret

I'm always happy shopping

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요

나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요

(shouted)

신발, 옷, 목도리, 바지, 가방, 팔찌

(fade)

COMPULSIVE SHOPPING NETWORK  
#110 "Celebrate Stasis!"

Written by  
Dayle C. Hall

© 2017

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BLACK SCREEN

OPENING CREDITS

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(officious voice)

Compulsive buying disorder or CBD or oniomania, from the Greek onios "for sale" and manía or "insanity", is characterized by an obsession with shopping and buying behavior that often causes adverse consequences. YCSN is not responsible for any adverse consequences that may result from a pre-existing compulsive buying disorder. If you think you or someone you know is suffering from this condition please seek the help of a licensed professional. With proper treatment this condition can *sometimes* be successfully treated.

DESHWA'AN (V.O.)

ZhenZhen, Paanch, Chaar, Teen, Dow,  
Aik

We hear five electronic blips of a time code.

We see the back of a hand counting down from five but out of sync from the countdown and the blips. After one (middle finger) the finger points away from the camera.

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right hand corner

INT. SUV - NIGHT

A young mother (MOM) is driving and her DAUGHTER (braces and cute hat with cat ears) is in the passenger seat. They both look stressed out.

DAUGHTER

Mom! That's the wrong exit! Oh no,  
mom! We're...we're driving through  
Poortown!

GPS WOMAN (V.O.)  
 You have left the toll road. Gemholz  
 Transportation Services can no longer  
 guarantee your safety, please refer  
 to paragraph 33 of your user  
 agreement.

DAUGHTER  
 (distraught)  
 Mommy!

MOM  
 (soothing)  
 It's OK Jenny, Mommy's here, and so  
 is Gemholz.  
 (commanding)  
 Gemholz, find the nearest police  
 station.

GPS WOMAN (V.O.)  
 The nearest police station is in 2  
 point 7 miles. Make the next left...  
 Recalculating, Recalculating...

DAUGHTER  
 (distraught)  
 Mommy!

MOM  
 Don't worry, we're only a few minutes  
 away...

GPS WOMAN (V.O.)  
 There is a reported accident on the  
 (different voice)  
 Martin Luther King Throughway.  
 (original voice)  
 Revised time to destination is  
 (different voice)  
 15 minutes.

DAUGHTER  
 Mommy! Look out! They've got guns.

We hear gunshots ring out.

We hear the girl scream.

FREEZE AND FADE

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right hand corner

INSERT

Text box lower left hand corner: "YATES AUTO SURVIVAL  
(BACKSPACES) SURVIVAL SYSTEM ITEM: YASS33 A, B OR C  
\$1249.73"

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "BE SURE TO SELECT A, B OR C TO  
ENSURE THE CORRECT SIZE. YOUR COMPULSIVE CARE REPRESENTATIVE  
WILL BE ABLE TO ASSIST YOU IN PURCHASING THE RIGHT ONE FOR  
YOUR VEHICLE."

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora is standing with PHIL YATES, CEO of the Yates Auto  
Survival System. Phil is a bit overweight but still works  
his biceps. Short hair, maybe former military.

IDORA  
Wow! Powerful stuff.

PHIL  
I know, right? We usually choose to  
travel on our known safe routes, but  
occasionally, our business or  
personal lives will force us to  
travel through...

We see Phil's face take up most of the screen.

PHIL  
Transitional neighborhoods.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

PHIL  
I don't care what kind of security  
system you subscribe to, at a certain  
point, none of that will matter.  
There's some bad hombres out there  
and it's only a matter of time before  
a stray bullet that was meant for a  
rival gang member will find your  
(MORE)

PHIL (cont.)  
 loved one's neck, tearing their  
 carotid artery into confetti,  
 spraying blood and tissue everywhere  
 like an exploding can of SpaghettiO's  
 until they can no longer cry for help  
 because the only noise they can make  
 is a sad bubbling sound...

IDORA  
 (genuinely aghast)  
 That's disgusting!

PHIL  
 ...and their only response to your  
 questions will be a look of total and  
 complete fear.

IDORA  
 Stop it! That's horrible!

PHIL  
 But true.  
 (in a suddenly  
 happier voice)  
 Until now!

We see a late model car parked in the studio. The car has  
 four large tubes affixed to the roof. The tubes are on the  
 their sides and positioned over the front and rear  
 windshields and the side windows.

PHIL  
 What we have here is as close as we  
 can get to guaranteeing your safety  
 while driving.

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "NOT A GUARANTEE."

IDORA  
 It seems so simple, but...effective.  
 Compulsives, take a good look. Phil,  
 can you explain this system?

PHIL  
 Absolutely, Idora. What you are  
 looking at is the YASS33, or the  
 Yates Auto Survival System 33. Think  
 about this, when you're driving,  
 what's the most vulnerable part of  
 (MORE)

PHIL (cont.)

your body?

Let me give you a hint. See all this glass? That's not going to stop a bullet.

IDORA

I guess not.

PHIL

Your body is surrounded by metal, but think about you or your loved one's head, surrounded by all this glass. Now most of you already know about kevlar, the lightweight but incredibly strong man-made fiber, it's the composite that helps heroes be heroes.

IDORA

Like in a bulletproof vest, right?

PHIL

Exactly. We've simply made it a little bigger and rolled it up inside these tubes.

IDORA

Will it fit on all cars?

PHIL

We have several sizes that will fit anything from a subcompact to a full blown battle cruiser.

IDORA

What about installation?

PHIL

Can you lift 4 kilos? Tie your shoes? Do four squat thrusts? Roll your windows up and down?

IDORA

So you're telling us that installation is a snap?

PHIL

Roll down your windows, squat thrust, lift, tie and roll them back up. The charger module plugs into your accessory port. It's just that easy.

IDORA  
So how does it work?

PHIL  
Idora, I don't have to tell you or your Compulsives that disaster can strike like that!  
(snaps his finger)  
If you think you are about to become involved in gangland target practice, or maybe the dreaded  
(air quotes)  
"honky turkey shoot", you don't have time to execute a complex series of controls. With the YASS33, you simply push one button conveniently mounted near your vehicle's climate controls. This will fire a series of small charges that unleash the kevlar and drape the greenhouse of your vehicle in a bulletproof cocoon.

IDORA  
That's great, but how do you see...?

PHIL  
(smiling)  
That's why we at Yates Auto Safety Systems constantly test our products in the lab and in the real world. The YASS33 has small cutouts that allow you to see through them, whereas its predecessor, the YASS32 didn't.

IDORA  
Hmmm, I see.

PHIL  
(chuckling)  
Of course, we don't recommend driving for long periods of time with the curtains down, so to speak.

IDORA  
(laughing)  
I guess not.  
(sober)  
Wow, fascinating. So there you have it Compulsives. Is your family as safe as they can be? Now they can be with the Kevlar coated bulletproof automotive shield, Item YASS33.

(MORE)

IDORA (cont.)

For a little over one hundred dollars a month you can drive with peace of mind, knowing that YASS33 is with you to protect your loved ones. You can't put a price on that.

(pauses)

Item YASS33 A, B or C, only \$1,250.00 plus shipping and handling. If you're ordering by phone you'll need to give your Compulsive Care Representative your car year and model or if you're shopping online, please refer to the drop down menus to ensure you are ordering the correct size, we hate to do it, but returns are subject to a 30% restocking fee. Stick around, we'll be back with Phil to talk about the latest products from Gemholz. Gemholz, automotive products designed with the welfare of those most precious to you in mind. All here on YCSN, Your Compulsive Shopping Network. Happy Shopping!

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Deshwan is working with the Assistant. Deshwa'an is wearing an Anti-Robot Résistance Humaine t-shirt and his right hand is heavily bandaged.

DESHWA'AN

Cue Riker's Home Dentistry promo in Hamsa, Erbgah, Tlieta, Tnejn, Wiehed

INSERT

"YCSN" Bug in lower right hand corner

We see an OLDER WOMAN, she could be somebody's mom.

OLDER WOMAN:

I've got this shooting pain in my mouth. I know I should go to a dentist, but they're so expensive!

We see a DAD, he's wearing a sweater with his hand on his SON'S head, son is dressed in a dirty baseball uniform and is missing a front tooth

DAD

I'd like to do something about my son's broken tooth, but we've got so many bills, we just can't afford this right now.

We see a young attractive YOUNG WOMAN.

YOUNG WOMAN

I'm new in town and just don't know who to trust. You know how weird dentists are, right? I've heard stories that a lot of them do gross stuff to their patients, you know?

INSERT

Left half of the screen has a static shot of a dentist office from the outside

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Sound familiar? We all know it's important to maintain sound dental health, but it's so expensive.

INSERT

Same static shot of a dentist office but with a big green dollar sign graphic flown in over the picture.

We hear a menacing tone synced with the dollar sign graphic.

INSERT

Right half of the screen has a static shot of a dentist smiling.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

And I'm sure you've seen stories on the news about dentists molesting women and youngsters.

INSERT

Same static shot of the same dentist but now the smile looks a little perverse and a big red X is flown in over the picture.

We hear a menacing tone synced with the big X.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
There just hasn't been a good  
solution to these problems. But  
there's help on the way!

We hear upbeat canned synth pop.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
Announcing Riker's Home Dentistry  
Kit!

INSERT

We see a montage (stills) of people working on model  
airplanes, cars, boats, woodworking and yes, performing  
dentistry.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
When you think about it, what's so  
special about what a dentist does?  
It's like a combination of carpentry  
and model building. It's a secret  
that drives many of them to messy  
suicides. But the truth is that if  
you're even just a little bit  
coordinated, you can perform your own  
dental work and save money!  
(lower effected  
voice)  
Big Time!

We hear a popping noise with as each item shows up on  
screen. The announcer's voice is sped up (not higher  
pitched).

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
Riker's Home Dentistry Kit includes a  
combination drill and dremel, a  
generous supply of composite filling  
material, sharp metal tools to pick  
away at coffee stains, harmful plaque  
and diseased gums, a year's supply of  
cotton wads, five tubs off genuine  
Organic Peruvian pain pills and two  
large mirrors and lights that can be  
positioned a thousand different ways!  
Take care of your youngster's teeth  
for pennies! Perform your own dental  
work and rest assured that you won't  
be taken advantage of.

(MORE)

ANNOUNCER (V.O. cont.)  
With just a little practice, you can  
go from this:

INSERT

We see a YOUNG WOMAN WITH BLACKED OUT TEETH.

WOMAN WITH BLACKED OUT TEETH  
(forlorn)  
With my horrible teeth, I can't  
smile, I can't go out on dates, I  
can't even get a job!

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
To this:

We see a HOT WOMAN WITH A PERFECT SMILE.

HOT WOMAN WITH A PERFECT SMILE  
Wanna party?

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
(lower effected  
voice)  
Hubba Hubba!  
(normal voice)  
Riker's Home Dentistry Kit. Safe,  
Easy and Affordable. Available only  
at YCSN, Your Compulsive Shopping  
Network!  
(lower effected  
voice)  
Big Time!

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

ASSISTANT  
(looks at Deshwa'an)  
Is that even legal?

INT. BATHROOM STALL - DAY

Max Arbitrage is seated and on the phone with Brock Pounder.

MAX  
What? How could they? So we're just  
supposed to sit here and take it up  
the ~~ass~~? I thought we had a deal, I  
thought this was all set.

We hear somebody rushing into the bathroom and into an adjacent stall. We hear the clink of his belt being undone and the shuffle of his pants being removed.

MAX

How the ~~fuck~~ can Ms. DeSoto be a player again? I thought we had taken care of her through that bloody idiot, her husband Arnie. I...I thought the courts had...

We hear a very loud, very flatulent, and very long bowel movement. The sounds continue. Max bangs on the wall of his stall.

MAX

For God sakes, man, keep it down, will you. I'm on the phone.

MAN IN STALL

~~Fuck~~ You!

We hear an equally loud, very flatulent, and very long bowel movement.

MAX

Good lord, man. You should see a doctor about that. Can you keep it...Oh God.

Max turns up his nose in disgust at the smell.

MAX (cont.)

What? No, not you, Brock, it's...

Max bangs on the stall wall again.

MAX (cont.)

(into the phone)  
...somebody next door. What?

We hear more loud flatulence.

MAX

I said, keep it down will you?

MAN IN STALL

~~Fuck~~ you!

We hear more loud flatulence.

Max continues banging on the stall wall and shouts over to the man in the stall.

MAX  
Jesus Christ, what the hell did you eat?

MAN IN STALL  
Eggs Florentine, Corn fritters, Hash browns, Beef tenderloin with a Bearnaise sauce, lentils, Brussels sprouts, Palak Paneer, OHHHHHHH...

We hear more loud flatulence.

We hear the sound of somebody else entering the restroom.

We hear someone knocking on max's stall door.

MAX  
It's occupied!

SECOND MAN  
Lo siento!

Subtitle: I'm sorry

We hear a loud phone ringtone (banda music).

SECOND MAN  
Hola, ¿es usted Juan? Terminé temprano, ¿qué? OK, te pondré en "altavoz".

Subtitle: Hello, is that you Juan? I finished early, what? OK, I'll put you on "speakerphone"

We hear the sound of second man emptying a very full bladder into a urinal.

MAN ON SPEAKERPHONE  
Hola Diego ¿Todavía quieres cenar juntos?

Subtitle: Hi Diego. Do you still want to eat dinner together?

We hear more loud flatulence.

MAX  
(beside himself)  
Can you  
(looks at the stall wall)  
~~shit~~ a little more quietly and can you

(MORE)

MAX (cont.)  
 (to the second man)  
 turn off the bloody phone! I'm  
 trying to have a bloody conversation  
 here.

MAN IN STALL  
~~Fuck~~ You!

SECOND MAN  
 (ignoring Max)  
 No, no puedo, estoy ocupado. ¿Qué tal  
 mañana?

Subtitle: No, I can't, I'm busy. How about tomorrow?

We hear a urinal flush.

MAN ON SPEAKERPHONE  
 No, mañana no es bueno. ¿Pasado  
 mañana?

Subtitle: No, tomorrow's no good. Day after tomorrow?

We hear more loud flatulence.

MAX  
 I give up. Brock I'm going to have  
 to...what? I said, I'm going to have  
 to call you back.  
 (screaming)  
 I said I'll have to call you back.

SECOND MAN  
 Eso suena bien, Juan.

Subtitle: That sounds good, Juan.

We hear more loud flatulence.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT  
 "YCSN" bug in lower right hand corner

INSERT

Text box in lower left hand side: "DR. YEN'S PIT VIPER  
 EXTRACT: DYP0033A"

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "THE HOLIDAYS ARE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER. SURPRISE HER WITH SCHLÜB!!"

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "SCHLÜB! ITEM SCH3230 SOLD OUT."

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora is surround by many pictures and videos of snakes in the middle of her pitch.

IDORA

...not convinced that something as poisonous as Pit Viper venom could be a turned into a substance that could help you live a longer, healthier, and more vibrant life? I hear you, I thought the very same thing. But I was wrong! Dr. Yen's Pit Viper Extract does all that and more. But don't just take my word for it, let's hear from

(breaks)

no,

(looks at control room)

Deshwa'an, really? OK. Compulsives you m....ight already know our next guest, Dr. Paul Wolfshmidt who's here to talk about the secrets of...

(to herself)

I can't read this.

(hand to earbud)

Really?

(resigned)

OK.

Idora regains her on camera persona and turns her attention stage left with a fake grin.

IDORA (cont.)

How about sharing the health secrets of Dr. Yen's Pit Viper Extract? Dr. Paul?

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

DOCTOR PAUL (O.S.)

Hi Idora, good to see you too! Well, when it comes to venomous snakes, there are those whose poison contains neurotoxins and those whose poison contains blood thinners. Some of us confuse the two, so I've come up with a simple mnemonic that will help you remember the effects of each specific snake's venom...

ASSISTANT

What's got to her?

DESHWA'AN

(Distracted) Hmm?

ASSISTANT

Idora. She's acting weird.

DESHWA'AN

Oh, that.

(shakes his head)

Weird? Not really. I think she just realized that she's literally selling snake oil.

ASSISTANT

(beat)

I don't get it.

DRONE POV

The drone hovers in the reception area. Suze is on the phone with her dad.

SUZE

(almost squealing)

Really? 51.754%? Awesome, daddy. No really, I'm literally exploding with happiness. Literally! What? No, I'm ready, don't worry, your little girl has this under control. It's gonna be great, we're going to un-invent the wheel!

INT. RECEPTION AREA - DAY

Jamie the Fast Express/Big Package guy enters pushing a hand truck with packages on it.

JAMIE

(cool)  
Hey, Suze.

SUZE

(cool)  
Hey.  
(remembers  
something)  
Oh Jamie, can everybody in the band  
make it?

JAMIE

What do you mean, it's a gig, and  
we're getting paid. Sweet. It's  
awesome, we're all stoked. I'm  
getting off a couple of hours early.  
(a little confused)  
But we're not quite sure what the  
occasion is. Is somebody retiring?  
Getting promoted?

SUZE

It's kind of a throwback thing. Don't  
worry, just play whatever you want.

JAMIE

(still confused)  
Throwback? You mean like retro?

SUZE

Not exactly. Just think of it as re-  
establishing a sort of stasis.  
(thinks)  
You know, sometimes the status quo  
isn't such a bad thing.

JAMIE

Sure, I guess...

POV DRONE

The drone moves away from the reception desk and hovers over  
a corner of the building. Portia is in her maintenance  
disguise and Lizbeth is behind her, shy and hiding. Frank  
enters and walks over to them, bringing a shopping bag full  
of clothes and makeup for Portia.

FRANK

I didn't know what you would need, so  
I probably bought too much.

FRANK (cont.)  
I've got the footage to the board and  
(turns away in  
disgust)  
what's that smell?

Lizbeth moves from behind Idora and sticks out her hand.

LIZBETH  
Hi, I'm Lizbeth.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

The hallway is lined with boxes of D.D.T. Jerry has Maricio by the arm and is regaling him with stories.

JERRY  
I'm telling you that there was a  
certain civility back then. Women  
wore gloves and men wore hats. You  
did something nice for somebody, they  
would say "thank you" Now? No one  
says thank you anymore, I guess  
everybody feels entitled to  
everything. And even if someone does  
say thank you, does anybody say  
"you're welcome"? Not anymore, now  
it's "No worries" or "No Problem."  
"Thanks." "No Problem." What does  
that even mean?

At the end of the hall, Maricio opens a door and lets Jerry through first. Jerry turns to Maricio and makes a point of expressing his gratitude.

JERRY  
Thank you!

Jerry walks through the door and Marcio follows.

MARICIO  
No hay problema!

Subtitle: No problem!

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right hand corner

INSERT

Lower left text box: "BEATRICE'S BEE-AUTY SECRETS"

INSERT

Scroll at bottom of screen: "QUEEN BEA'S BEE-AUTY LINE: BEA BEE FARMS ROYAL JELLY JELLY ITEM QBRJ033Z"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Pictures of Bees and an actual hive sits off to stage left. "QUEEN BEA" (Beatrice L'Anthophilia) a hefty beauty is joined by Idora and both are dressed in Beekeeper suits. A model sits in a chair upstage.

IDORA

Welcome back Compulsives. You can tell by our outfits that we've got something a little special planned for tonight. I'm told they're completely safe, but we're not taking any chances, you know just in case?

CREW MEMBER

(indistinct noise)

IDORA

What's that Armand? Yes, they're real and no, I don't think we had enough suits, besides, it's just for show, right?

CREW MEMBER

(indistinct noise)

IDORA

Oh, you worry too much! What's the worst that could happen?

(chuckles, looks into camera)

I'm joined by my bestie here, the Queen Bea herself, Beatrice L'Anthophilia. We've got a fantastic product Compulsives, so let's skip the boring stuff and get right to it! Bea, what do we have here?

BEA

Well, if you know me, you know I love bees!

IDORA

We know the girl loves bees. Well I'm sure our Compulsives already know about your fabulous product line, but for the lurkers and newbies, maybe you could show us some of your established products?

BEA

I'd love to. Queen Bea's Complete Bee-auty Line includes such products as our Honeycomb Wax Spa Treatments and Excess Hair Removal kit...

INSERT

We see a close shot of model having excess arm hair removed with wax and pulling it off.

IDORA (V.O.)

Listen, Compulsives, it's a dirty little secret, but we all have a little hair where we would prefer not to. The Honeycomb Wax Spa Treatments removes hair for up to a month!

INT. STUDIO - DAY

BEA

And there's the Honey-Hibiscus Super Exfoliant...

INSERT

We see a close up of model's face as she scrapes her face with an abrasive tool.

IDORA (V.O.)

Your skin will feel brand new, all those unsightly wrinkles, blemishes and tags just seem to disappear...

INT. STUDIO - DAY

BEA  
...and, of course, our Beekake  
Facials.

INSERT

We see a Close up of Model's face with milky honey being  
spurted into her face from several squeeze bottles (the  
nozzles \*just\* in the frame).

IDORA (V.O.)  
It's such an incredible feeling to  
have that milky honey roll down your  
face...

BEA (V.O.)  
...especially when it's shot from our  
high power applicator squeeze bottle!

INT. STUDIO - DAY

IDORA  
Mmm, yes. It's a life-changer, plain  
and simple. Well Queen Bea, we've  
gone through the greatest hits. What  
more can you add?

BEA  
Well we've got a fantastic new  
product that we just can't wait to  
share with you. What is it? It's  
Royal Jelly, in a Gelatin form. We  
call it Royal Jelly Jelly! We've got  
some of our little friends over there  
to show you just how hard they  
work...

INSERT

We see a close up of a hand holding a phone.  
It's Manager Fu's hand. The text reads: Party @ YCSN!  
Celebrate Stasis! 2nite Studio A

MANAGER FU (V.O.)  
(tired or hungover  
voice)  
What? They can't even get it  
together enough to delete me off  
their ~~fucking~~ text lists?

We hear a bubbling noise and ominous low 'cellos.

INT. STORAGE ROOM - DAY

We see a pile of D.D.T. boxes. The camera zooms into a close up of the box at the top of the pile. The box starts expanding as the cream within starts to slowly grow in size and spill out of the box.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right hand corner

INSERT

Text box in lower left hand corner: "BEATRICE'S BEE-AUTY SECRETS"

INSERT

Scroll at the bottom of the screen: "QUEEN BEA'S BEE-AUTY LINE: BEA BEE FARMS ROYAL JELLY JELLY ITEM QBRJ033Z"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

Idora and Bea are standing next to the hive.

BEA  
Royal Jelly is powerful stuff.  
(looks at Idora)  
Can I get a little science-y on you,  
sister?

IDORA  
Testify, girl!

BEA  
Well, this miracle substance is  
secreted from the glands in the  
hypopharynx of worker bees, and fed  
to all larvae in the colony,  
regardless of sex or caste!

IDORA  
Hypo what? You lost me there!

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Bea's spiel continues as a voice over.

BEA (V.O.)

The worker bees secrete this to the larvae of drones and workers for three days though queens are continually fed this amazing substance throughout their larval development. As you can imagine, it's a difficult product to produce and sell - in the space of one year, a hive only produces about 1000 grams of Royal Jelly. That's not very much! Once we harvest it, it is immediately refrigerated and then added to a flavored gelatin and shipped right to market. In some studies, fresh Royal Jelly has shown to have anti-inflammatory properties and many people throughout the world include it in their dietary regimen.

ASSISTANT

What's wrong with your hand? You seem a little down? You going to that thing tonight?

DESHWA'AN

I'm OK. You mean the party? I don't feel like partying, but I don't think I have any choice. It sounded like it was mandatory. God knows what it's all about. Just when I think that management has run out of ~~bullshit~~ they come up with some more. It's like they've got an inexhaustible pool of the stuff.

ASSISTANT

(drifting off)

What stuff?

DESHWA'AN

Bullshit.

ASSISTANT

Hmm.

(lost in thought)

I wonder if Maricio will be there?

INT. PORTIA/MAX'S OFFICE - DAY

Max is working on his tablet and muttering to himself. Without knocking, Portia enters. She's dressed in an outrageously loud checkerboard patterned pantsuit.

PORTIA

Hello, Max.

MAX

(looks up)

Ms. DeSoto. I've been expecting you.  
Have a seat?

PORTIA

I prefer to stand.

MAX

Well I would ask you how you've been  
and what you've been up to, but  
frankly I don't give a rat's ass  
about any of that.

PORTIA

(sarcastic)

Happy to see you as well. I can't  
say I'm wild about what you've done  
with the place.

Max gestures toward all the boxes of D.D.T.

MAX

Oh these? Remnants of the prior  
regime. You can keep your low rent  
look, courtesy of the Flotsam and  
Jetsam School of Design. Doesn't  
matter, really, as I don't plan on  
staying here that long.

PORTIA

Rob and pillage, is that it?

MAX

Quite. I have to say that I'm  
impressed by your staying power, even  
if I find it a bit baffling. The  
courts...

PORTIA

(interrupting)

...already have some new evidence,  
and my board has made a very strong  
vote of confidence in my leadership.

(MORE)

PORTIA (cont.)  
I think it's about time you admit  
defeat and get out while you still  
have a shred of decency.

MAX  
Decency? In this business?  
(starts to laugh)

INT. STUDIO - DAY

INSERT

"YCSN" bug in lower right hand corner

INSERT

Text box in lower left hand corner: "BEATRICE'S BEE-AUTY  
SECRETS"

INSERT

Scroll at the bottom of the screen: "QUEEN BEA'S BEE-AUTY  
LINE: BEA BEE FARMS ROYAL JELLY JELLY ITEM QBRJ033Z"

INSERT

ON SCREEN

The segment continues with Idora, Bea and the beehive.

BEA  
No, Idora, I don't think anyone  
really has to fear that. In fact, we  
at Bea Bee Farms have welcomed the  
African Hybrid Honey Bees into our  
hives. They're harder working and  
more disease resistant.

PORTIA  
(a little worried)  
But what about the stories we've all  
heard? Aren't they like super  
aggressive?

BEA  
Sure, they're aggressive if they  
sense a threat to the hive. But our  
farms are in rural areas, so any  
aggressive impact is minimal.

(MORE)

BEA (cont.)  
And as regards to these  
(points to the hive)  
we've got nothing to worry about.  
(chuckling)  
You'd have to knock over the entire  
hive to get them upset. Besides,  
you've got the AC cranked, they're  
very sluggish in colder temperatures.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Deshwa'an and Assistant continue working.

DESHWA'AN  
This should finish it.

ASSISTANT  
That's a lot of pre-taped stuff.

DESHWA'AN  
Yeah, well they want everybody at the  
party. Everybody except the call  
center. Say, did we ever get the fire  
door locks to Studio A fixed?

We hear the assistant's text ring (the intro to Bomba  
Estereo's "To My Love"). Assistant looks at her phone and  
pauses, maybe even fawning a bit before getting back to  
business.

ASSISTANT  
It's Maricio. He's here with Billy  
the HVAC guy. I guess the back-  
ordered part finally showed up. He  
also says they need to clean out the  
ducting, something about an  
obstruction. I can ask about the  
doors, or do you want to...?

DESHWA'AN  
(a slight, weary  
grin)  
Nah, I'll finish up. Go see what he  
needs.

ASSISTANT  
OK. See you at the party. Celebrate  
stasis!

Assistant gives the shopping gesture, gathers her stuff and leaves.

INSERT

We see a close up of phone, the ID is simply Warehouse, a woman's finger slides to accept the call.

INT. CONDO KITCHEN - DAY

We see Manager Fu sitting at a kitchen table dressed in a t-shirt and jeans.

MANAGER FU

(into phone)

Wait, who is this? Calm down. What? Slow down. I don't work for the network any...no, I resigned. I don't know why I'm still on the emergency list - isn't Desh...Mr. Romaly the safety captain? Not for the warehouse? Well I'm sorry, but I don't work...I don't know, maybe something hasn't got processed yet. Look I don't...what? Heat cycles? Prolonged exposure to heat makes it do what? What do you mean explode? Sure, but...all of it? I don't know, I'm...OK, what's that screaming noise? It's screaming? You mean like people screaming? OK, OK, I'll call. Yes, I'll, I don't know. Somebody will call you back.

(hangs up)

Aw shit.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Marcio and Billy the HVAC Guy are talking.

MARICIO

No lo sé, man. Trabajo con algunas verdaderas prima donnas. Estabas aquí la última vez, they freaked out.

Subtitle: I don't know, man. I work with some real prima donnas. You were here the last time, se asustaron.

BILLY

It's only for a couple of hours.

In an effort to explain, he shows two fingers, then three, then four and five and shrugs.

BILLY (cont.)  
But I can't help the downtime, we  
can't have the system running when  
I'm recharging the refrigerant.

The Assistant arrives and can only stare blankly at them.

BILLY (cont.)  
So what I'm saying is that, sure, it  
will get a little warm for a few  
hours, but what's the worst that can  
happen?  
(looks at Assistant)  
We can start in Studio B right?  
Right?

ASSISTANT  
(almost speechless)  
What?

BILLY  
You're the Assistant, right? Is  
anything going on in Studio B?

ASSISTANT  
What? Oh, sorry. Um, yes but...they  
should be finishing soon. You're  
saying that the AC will be off for a  
couple of hours?

BILLY  
'Fraid so.

ASSISTANT  
OK, I'll let them know. Like I said,  
Studio B should be free soon, but you  
can't do anything in Studio A because  
that's where the party is. You know  
about the party?

Assistant turns toward Maricio and gathers her strength.

ASSISTANT (cont.)  
What about you, Maricio?  
(with difficulty)  
¿Vas a ir a la fiesta?

Subtitle: Are you going to the party?

MARICIO  
(looks at Assistant)  
¿Por qué? ¿Vas a estar ahí?

Subtitle: Why? Are you going to be there?

After a beat, Assistant nods her head.

ASSISTANT  
Yeah. Si!

MARICIO  
(smooth and smiling)  
Entonces iré a esta fiesta.

Subtitle: Then I will go to this party.

ASSISTANT  
Eso es genial! ¡Hasta luego!

Subtitle: That's great! Bye!

Assistant waves and skips away toward the studios while Maricio leaves in the opposite direction. She yells out in the background.

ASSISTANT (cont.)  
Celebrar la estasis!

Subtitle: Celebrate the stasis!

POV DRONE

We see Billy in the hallway and Idora approaches.

IDORA  
(nervously)  
Hi. Billy, right? We talked on the phone the other day?

BILLY  
That's right. You're Idora. How are things?

IDORA  
Things are OK.

Billy motions toward Idora's stomach.

BILLY

Is that...mine?

IDORA

Honestly? I don't know. I think it might be. I mean, I don't know you very well...not at all really.

(flustered)

This is all uncharted territory. To tell the truth, I'm a bit lost..

BILLY

But you're not going to....?

IDORA

What? God no, I'm keeping it. It may have been a mistake, but I firmly believe in things happening for a reason.

BILLY

(suspicious)

What are you after? Are you looking for money?

IDORA

No, that's all right. This is my little miracle. I can deal with it. But I would like a favor from you? Are you married?

BILLY

(unsure where the conversation is going)

W...ell, no.

IDORA

Well, I would like, I would like to be able to tell people that you're the father. I mean it's just to tell people, we can say we broke up or whatever later. I can even get a lawyer to draw up something to assure you that I won't hold you responsible.

BILLY

So I just play the part of the absentee father. I don't know, don't you think that that kind of thing plays into a stereotype?

IDORA

What? No! It will all be on me, the  
crazy demanding witch. I promise.

BILLY

What if the...kid is mine?

IDORA

How would we know?

BILLY

Well, how many brothers have you  
slept with?

Idora says nothing for a bit, concentrating on something.

BILLY

Well?

IDORA

Just a minute, I'm counting...

INT. STUDIO A STAGE - NIGHT

There is a stage set up where Jamie's band (for tonight they're called The Omniomaniacs) is playing a dirge-like song with the singer (SEO-YEON - think Korean Yoko Ono) singing in Korean. A banner flies above and behind the band pronouncing "A Celebration of...the Status Quo!" Everybody is assembled and they have been pecking at the finger food and have started to drink heavily.

SEO-YEON

너 여기 왔어,  
하지만 너는 떠났어요

Subtitle: You were here, but then you left.

SEO-YEON

왜 갔나 요?  
왜 죽었 니요?

Subtitle: Why did you go? Why did you die?

죽음!

Subtitle: Death!

SEO-YEON  
 (In English) Death! Death!  
 Deeeeeeeeeeeeeaaaaathhhhhhhhhhhh!

Seo-Yeon collapses in a dramatic fashion as the last chord rings out. Scattered applause.

INT. IN THE CROWD - NIGHT

We see Portia and Frank talking. Portia is dressed in a loud paisley number with a matching hat and what look like googles on top of the hat.

PORTIA  
 What's the meaning of this? What's happened since I've been gone? Has everything been outsourced?

Frank pulls at his collar because of the heat.

FRANK  
 I don't get it either. Celebrating the status quo? What does that even mean?

PORTIA  
 Is this Arbitrage's idea of some kind of sick joke?

Frank looks around and sees Max.

FRANK  
 I don't know. He looks as confused as we are.

Max is on the phone with Brock Pounder.

MAX  
 I tell you Brock, I don't have any idea what the ~~fuck~~ is going on. What? Oh, OK, later.

Max walks over to where Deshwa'an and the Assistant are standing. The Assistant is tipsy and Deshwa'an is blotto.

MAX  
 You two! Do you have any clue what's going on?

DESHWA'AN

Sure. We're swimming. Swimming in bullshit. And I'm a loveless man with a broken hand and a broken heart. S'only fitting that I spend my time just swimming, or treading water. Trying to stay afloat.

MAX

(to Assistant)

What's up with him?

ASSISTANT

I don't know. Maybe he can't swim?

DESHWA'AN

Drowning, drowning in bullshit.

MAX

And what's up with AC again?

ASSISTANT

They're working on it while we're celebrating the...

MAX

(interrupting)

Status Quo, yes, I can read. Deshwa'an, you really don't know what's going on? Never mind.

Max looks at his phone and shakes his head

INT. STUDIO A STAGE - NIGHT

Suze is on stage whispering to Jamie.

SUZE

Jamie! I mean, I absolutely love the shoegaze stuff, but I think we need something a bit more...upbeat? I want to make an announcement, but we need to get people's attention.

JAMIE

I thought you said we could play whatever we wanted to?

SUZE

Sure, and you can. As long as it's a bit faster.

JAMIE  
(upset, under his  
breath)  
This is why I hate corporate gigs.

Jamie says something to the drummer and counts down a faster beat. The band starts playing an uptempo tune, but Seo-Yeon is still in dirge mode, wailing in slow, indecipherable phrases, though you can occasionally make out the word "death".

SUZE  
(sarcastic)  
Yeah, that's more like it.

Idora and Billy come up to Suze. Idora shouts something over the band.

SUZE  
What?

IDORA  
Can we make an announcement?

SUZE  
Yes, I'm going to make an announcement.

IDORA  
No. Can we?

SUZE  
Can what?

IDORA  
I'd like to make an announcement.

SUZE  
What?

IDORA  
An announcement.

SUZE  
Oh, ah, sure, I mean I guess so.

Suze gets on stage and with effort, gets the band to stop and takes the mic from Seo-Yeon.

SUZE (cont.)  
 Thanks, guys, that was...special.  
 The Omniomaniacs, everybody. This is  
 their first gig, can you believe it?

The crowd is indifferent, responding with just a bit of  
 scattered applause. Suze looks at the band.

SUZE (cont.)  
 Take five guys, we've got some  
 announcements.

Seo-Yeon grabs the mic and starts wailing again.

SEO-YEON  
 Deeeeeeeeeaaaaaaaath!

Suze physically wrestles the mic from Seo-Yeon and stares  
 her down.

SUZE  
 (to the crowd)  
 Hello everybody, I'd like to say  
 something, but first, the network's  
 very own star Idora Hernandez would  
 like to say a few words. Idora?

There is applause from the crowd. With some difficulty,  
 Idora climbs on stage with Billy in tow.

IDORA  
 Hello everybody, I'd like to say...

BILLY  
 (sotto voce)  
 I've got to get back to recharging  
 the sealed system.

IDORA  
 (to Billy)  
 This will just take a sec.  
 (on mic)  
 Hello?  
 (feedback)  
 Hi everybody. I think you all know  
 me and you know about my...state.  
 And there's been a lot of speculation  
 about the father of my child. I have  
 to say that I've found some of the  
 reactions mean and spiteful.

(MORE)

IDORA (cont.)  
 Before he shut it down, there was  
 even an office pool about this.  
 Right?

Deshwa'an shouts out from the crowd.

DESHWA'AN  
 I'm sorry. That was mean. I'm...  
 sorry. I'm a loveless man. I'm  
 sorry.

IDORA  
 That's OK. So to all of you, you can  
 stop your speculation. I'm here with  
 Billy LaPlantain.  
 (hugs Billy)  
 Billy is the father of my...  
 (looks at Billy)  
 I should say *our* child.

VOICE FROM CROWD:  
 Yeah! I win! Woohoo!

INT. IN THE CROWD - NIGHT

We see Max, Deshwa'an and Assistant taking it all in.

MAX  
 Well, after all that, let's all just  
 hope the child is black.

ASSISTANT  
 Well that's kind of a twist, huh?

Max and Deshwa'an look at her.

ASSISTANT (cont.)  
 What? I'm just saying what you're  
 all thinking...

DESHWA'AN  
 Well I'm impressed.  
 (comes to a  
 realization)  
 If she can do it, I can do it to.

MAX  
 What are you babbling about?

DESHWA'AN  
I have to tell everybody, don't you  
see? I have to tell everybody.

Deshwa'an starts to make his way through the crowd toward  
the stage.

INT. OFFSTAGE - NIGHT

Idora and Billy continue their talk offstage.

BILLY  
So that's what you meant?

IDORA  
Sorry, but I had to stop all the  
talk. You get it right?

BILLY  
I'm not sure. Look, if I don't get  
back to work, people are going to get  
a might bit uncomfortable.

IDORA  
OK. Can we talk later?

BILLY  
Sure. We can talk. Later.

INT. STUDIO A STAGE - NIGHT

Suze has the mic again on stage.

SUZE  
Well that was interesting! Ahem,  
first off, I'm, I mean we're sorry  
for the heat.

A VOICE FROM THE CROWD  
I'm roasting!

A SECOND VOICE FROM THE CROWD  
(muffled)  
So take of your clothes!

SUZE  
Yeah, I know it's hot. They're  
working on it.

(MORE)

SUZE (cont.)

But let's not let being a little warm  
spoil our fun. I suppose you're all  
wondering why we're gathered here.

ASSISTANT

(drunk yell)

Celebrate stasis!

SUZE

Yes, that's right. When I started  
working here, it was like a family.

FRANK

(loud enough)

A dysfunctional family...

SUZE

(interrupting)

Sure, maybe a little dysfunctional.  
But it felt like home. Before I  
worked here I used to watch the  
channel, that was when it was still  
on broadcast before the move to  
cable, and I felt like you all were  
my friends.

INT. IN THE CROWD - NIGHT

Deshwa'an is still stumbling through the crowd to get to the  
stage. Max is trying to get information from the Assistant,  
who is sipping a large rum drink through a straw.

MAX

Who is this person?

ASSISTANT

You know her. That's Suze. She's  
the receptionist.

MAX

The receptionist? So tell me why are  
we listening to her pointless  
prattle?

INT. STUDIO A STAGE - NIGHT

Suze continues her speech.

SUZE

I felt like this home was being torn apart. At first, I didn't want to get involved, I figured that's just the way business is. But then I decided that I couldn't just let this family be ripped asunder. So I started buying stock in the network...

INSERT

We see the screen split into thirds with close ups of Max, Frank and Portia

MAX, FRANK AND PORTIA  
(in unison)  
What the fuck?

INT. STUDIO A STAGE - NIGHT

Suze continues her speech. Behind her and to the sides of the stage, stacked boxes of D.D.T. are starting to expand and the green goo is starting to flow out of the boxes.

SUZE

It wasn't my original intention to... well I suppose I just got carried away. Before I knew it, I had a fair amount invested the network.

INT. IN THE CROWD - NIGHT

FRANK

What does she mean, invested?

PORTIA

Don't ask me, this is the first I've heard of it.

INT. STUDIO A STAGE - NIGHT

SUZE

And over the last few weeks, as more shares became available, I kept purchasing them. At first it was just because I could.

(almost embarrassed)

Playing with stocks is kind of my little hobby.

DRONE POV

The drone is in Studio B. Maricio is in the studio cleaning up, and Suze's speech is playing on a large monitor.

SUZE

(on the monitor)

So I started this company, Wonderlick Holdings Ltd., and started on a mission to rebuild this family. I'm happy to say that this mission has been successful. Wonderlick Holdings Ltd. is now the majority shareholder of this network!

She stops while there are incredulous cries from the crowd.

Maricio is absently listening to the speech while winding up cords and placing them on a cart. He starts to pull on a cord and it gives him some resistance. He pulls again and nothing. Finally he gives a big yank and the cord, which was stuck under the beehive, comes free, knocking over the hive.

INSERT

We see Maricio's surprised face taking up most of the screen.

MARICIO

Mierda!

Subtitle: ~~Shit!~~

INT. STUDIO B - NIGHT

He runs out of the studio with the swarm and the drone in pursuit. Maricio and the drone get through the door and the swarm moves to the AC vents.

INT. STUDIO A STAGE - NIGHT

SUZE

So I suppose you're wondering where that leaves you? Well I would like things to go back to the way they were before all this negativity and buyout stuff started. Wonderlick Holdings Ltd. aims to put a stop to all that...stuff.

MAX

(yells out)

So you're saying that we're reporting  
to you?

There are gasps from the crowd.

SUZE

Technically, sure.

(to Max)

It's OK, I worked it out with your  
bosses at Animus Equity.

(to the crowd)

And while this may sound funny to  
you, I like my job. You can call me  
the President, but I still want to  
retain my old job.

PORTIA

(incredulous)

As a receptionist?

SUZE

Yeah, I know it's a little strange,  
but that's the way it's going to be.  
I've arranged to keep Ms. DeSoto, Mr.  
Arbitrage,

(looks at Max)

I hope I pronounced that right, and  
Mr. Weiskopf all in charge of the day  
to day operations. Sort of like a  
powerful triangle of...power. I  
think it could, no it will be a good  
mix. Also, for those of you who were  
fired or laid off, well, you've got  
your old jobs back. If you want them  
that is.

We hear applause from the crowd.

VOICE FROM THE CROWD

Wait, everybody. What's that smell?

Deshwa'an finally makes it to the stage. He's very drunk  
and he takes the mic from Suze.

DESHWA'AN

I'd like to say something...  
something...

There is feedback and then Deshwa'an is temporarily inaudible.

DESHWA'AN (cont.)  
About someone. I was the luckiest man here, because I had found somebody wonderful. But I'm a horrible, loveless person...but she was, no she is w...onderful!

SUZE  
(tries to get mic back)  
That's nice.

DESHWA'AN  
Not nice. Wonderful.  
(drawn out)  
Wonderful.

INT. BACK OF STUDIO A - NIGHT

Manager Fu enters in obvious distress.

MANAGER FU  
Everybody, it's an emergency! You have to leave now!

INT. STUDIO A STAGE - NIGHT

Suze is still trying to wrestle the mic away from Deshwa'an.

DESHWA'AN  
Baby! There she is, the one I was talking about, the one I miss, my one and true love, my soul mate...

VOICE FROM THE CROWD  
The D.D.T. it's exploding!

On cue, the boxes start exploding, sending viscous green goo into the air

VOICES FROM THE CROWD:  
Euw! (Etc.)

INT. BACK OF STUDIO A - NIGHT

MANAGER FU

Deshwa'an, we have to get everyone out of here.

INT. STUDIO A STAGE - NIGHT

Deshwa'an displays a false, drunken bravado.

DESHWA'AN

Wait a minute, we need order! Let's not panic...

VOICES FROM THE CROWD

How can you tell us what to do? Why should we listen to you? Who made you safety monitor anyway?

DESHWA'AN

That's Safety Captain! And I was appointed by a committee! The Safety Committee!

VOICES FROM THE CROWD

(meekly)

Jeeze. OK. I didn't know. Sorry.

SUZE

What's happening?

INT. BACK OF STUDIO A - NIGHT

MANAGER FU

Everyone listen! Durian DeTox has to be stored at cool temperatures. If the temperature rises above 27 degrees Celsius, through two heat cycles, the product will eventually explode.

FRANK

You mean there are circumstances wherein the substance becomes...

VOICE FROM THE CROWD

(interrupting)

What does that mean?

DESHWA'AN

27 degrees C would be a little over 80 degrees fahrenheit.

VOICE FROM THE CROWD  
I know how to convert Celsius  
to Fahrenheit, stupid. That's not  
what I was asking!

SUZE  
What?

We hear a loud boom as another box explodes.

INT. BACK OF STUDIO A - NIGHT

Maricio runs in breathless. Assistant sees him and runs to him.

MARICIO  
(out of breath)  
Peligro!

Subtitle: Danger!

ASSISTANT  
(embracing Maricio)  
Sí, es un poco peligroso, pero qué  
hay de malo en vivir un poco  
peligrosamente? Además, ¿Es un amor  
peligroso un mal amor?

Subtitle: Yes, it's a little dangerous, but what's wrong  
with living a little dangerously? Besides, is a dangerous  
love a bad love?

MARICIO  
¡No, pero las abejas!

Subtitle: No, but the bees!

ASSISTANT  
¿Abejas?

Subtitle: Bees?

INT. STUDIO A STAGE - NIGHT

A vent above the stage is kicked out and Lizbeth falls to the stage floor. She gets up and runs toward the front of the stage.

LIZBETH  
They're coming! Run! Run for your  
lives!

Deshwa'an is still drunk but tries to project a sober authority.

DESHWA'AN  
No, we should maintain order. We need to leave calmly and proceed with all due caution to the marked exits.

SUZE  
(to Jamie)  
Don't just stand there, play something!

JAMIE  
(counts off)  
Hana, Dul, Hana Dul Set Net

The band starts into The Obsessive Shopper song. Seo-Yeon takes the mic from Suze and starts to sing.

SEO-YEON  
난 가끔 바빠  
난 가끔 기분 블루  
하지만 난이 비밀이  
난 쇼핑을 항상 행복하게

Suze turns around and motions the band to stop. They do albeit in a train wreck fashion, with Seo-Yeon giving her a dirty look.

MANAGER FU  
Listen! Do you hear that?

PORTIA  
After all that racket I can't hear a thing!

FRANK  
No, she's right. Listen! It's a swarm. It's a swarm of bees!

VOICE FROM THE CROWD  
Look! They're, they're, they're not just bees!

ASSISTANT  
He's right. They're killer bees!

CROWD  
(Screams)

We hear the sound of a swarm of angry bees.

DESHWA'AN  
 (grabs the mic)  
 Remain calm everybody, we have to  
 think!

We hear another box of D.D.T. exploding.

VOICE FROM THE CROWD  
 The door's locked!

ASSISTANT  
 Stupid fire locks!

SECOND VOICE FROM THE CROWD  
 We're doomed!

Manager Fu, Idora, Max, Frank and Portia join Deshwa'an and  
 Suze (and the Band) on stage. Manager Fu turns toward the  
 crowd.

MANAGER FU  
 Deshwa'an's right people, we have to  
 remain calm.

CROWD NOISES:  
 Ow! I think I just got stung, Help!  
 etc.

We see the small group on stage huddled together. Manager  
 Fu turns toward the rest of the group.

MANAGER FU  
 We can't get out of here right now,  
 so think! What do bees like?

FRANK  
 Bees? How should I know?

DESHWA'AN  
 Picnics?

MAX  
 That's ants you idiot!

IDORA  
 Crocus, hyacinth, borage, calendula,  
 wild lilac, echinacea, snapdragons  
 foxglove, zinnias, witch hazel and  
 goldenrod?

MAX

What are you, a ~~fucking~~ botanist?

FRANK

Ooh, I know, bees love a mind numbing devotion to order?

MANAGER FU

No, no, Idora was on the right track. They like things that smell nice. Things that smell sweet.

PORTIA

(aghast)

I sincerely hope you're not suggesting...

MANAGER FU

Quick then, there's not much time.

(on mic)

Everybody, we need to cover ourselves with Durian DeTox! Don't worry, if it's not confined into a box or jar, it won't explode!

ASSISTANT (O.S.)

(yelling)

Take off our clothes and smother ourselves with...

PORTIA

No, God no! Leave your clothes on! This event is being Podcast.

Deshwa'an's shirt is half stripped off.

DESHWA'AN

Yeah! What she said.

MANAGER FU

Once you're thoroughly covered in D.D.T., Stay calm. We'll get the doors opened soon.

Manager Fu covers the mic with her hand and looks at Deshwa'an.

MANAGER FU (cont.)

We can get the doors opened, right?

DESHWA'AN  
 Sure, I guess it's possible...

MANAGER FU  
 (on mic)  
 OK, people, once the doors are  
 opened, our Safety Captain  
 (motions toward  
 Deshwa'an)  
 will lead you to the stairwell.

She hands the mic back to Suze and Suze hands the mic to  
 Seo-Yeon.

SUZE  
 (to Seo-Yeon)  
 There's another couple of hundred in  
 this for you if you'll just play us  
 out.

SEO-YEON  
 (Gives the OK sign)  
 OK!  
 (shouts)  
 I'm Compulsive!

JAMIE  
 (Counts off)  
 Hana, Dul, Hana, Dul, Set, Net

The band starts into a punkish version of The Obsessive  
 Shopper as the crowd starts liberally coating themselves in  
 the green goo (some have ignored Portia and have disrobed).  
 Manager Fu and Deshwa'an rub the goo over each other's  
 bodies, obviously on good terms again. Portia, Max and  
 Frank look disgusted, Idora is trying to hide, Assistant and  
 Maricio are covered in goo and embracing while Suze and  
 Lizbeth are pouring D.D.T. on each other and dancing. Some  
 of the goo is being flung and the scene starts to resemble a  
 Mack Sennett pie fight. Boxes keep exploding and the swarm  
 is still flying through the crowd.

Final Credit Roll

SEO-YEON  
 Sometimes I'm angry,  
 Sometimes I'm sad,  
 But I've got a secret,  
 Something always makes me happy.

SEO-YEON (cont.)  
 쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요!  
 (Shopping gesture 2X  
 to the beat)  
 나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요!  
 쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요!  
 (Shopping gesture 2X  
 to the beat)  
 나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요.

Sometimes I feel sick,  
 Sometimes I feel blue,  
 But I've got a secret,  
 I'm always happy shopping!

쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요!  
 (Shopping gesture 2X  
 to the beat)  
 나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요!  
 쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요!  
 (Shopping gesture 2X  
 to the beat)  
 나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요.

Shouted Call and Response between Seo-Yeon and Jamie:

SEO-YEON AND JAMIE  
 신발, SHOES. 옷, COAT. 목도리, SCARF,  
 가방, BAG 팔찌, BRACELET 바지, PANTS,  
 바지, PANTS, 바지, PANTS, 바지, PANTS  
 바지, PANTS, 바지, 바지, 바지, 바지, 바지,  
 바지, 바지, 바지, 바지, AWWWWWWWWWWWWWW!

SEO-YEON  
 모두들! Everybody!

The crowd, covered in green goo, joins in a choreographed  
 (think Bollywood) routine.

EVERYBODY  
 쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요!  
 (Shopping gesture 2X  
 to the beat)  
 나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요!  
 쇼핑, 쇼핑, 쇼핑을, 사고싶어요!  
 (Shopping gesture 2X  
 to the beat)  
 나는 모든 것을 사고 싶어요.

(fade)  
 FIN