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# In Good Company

By Paul Weitz

/ Now I'm wakin'  
at the crack of dawn /  
/ To send a little money  
home /  
/ From here to the moon /  
/ Is risin'  
like a discotheque /  
/ And now my bags are down  
and packed /  
/ For traveling /  
After months of speculation  
analysts expect  
an announcement this week  
that GlobeCom International  
will acquire Waterman Publishing  
and its flagship magazine,  
Sports America.  
The man at the helm  
of GlobeCom,  
billionaire media magnate  
Teddy K.  
has been  
on a spending spree recently,  
acquiring a food service  
company, a cable operator  
and two  
telecommunications providers  
in deals totaling  
more than \$13 billion.  
And how did one lucky  
ferret owner come to own  
the largest dog treat  
manufacturer on the East Coast?  
/ Skin, that covers me  
from head to toe /  
/ Except a couple tiny holes /  
/ And openings /  
/ Where, the city's blowin'  
in and out /  
/ This is what it's  
all about /  
/ Delightfully /  
/ Everything's possible /  
/ When you're an animal,

not inconceivable /  
/ How things can change /  
/ I know /  
/ So I'm puttin' on  
aftershave /  
/ Nothin' is out of place /  
/ Gonna be on my way /  
/ Try to pretend /  
/ It's not only /  
/ Glass and concrete  
and stone /  
/ That it's just a house,  
not a home //

Mr. Kalb.

Dan.

Thanks for  
the Lakers tickets.

You bet.

Seats were terrific.

But I'm still not going to  
advertise in the magazine.

My son-in-law tells me that  
people don't read much anymore.

Too much effort moving  
the eyes back and forth.

So we're gonna put  
most of our budget  
into television,  
radio, Internet.

Okay.

' 'Okay' ' '?

What does that mean?

I'm not gonna try to  
sell you.

Why the hell not?

You're a salesman.

Yeah. Just not a very  
good one, that's all.

I'll say.

But I am gonna  
ask you one favor.

Oh, yeah?

I'm gonna leave you  
an issue of the magazine.

And I'm personally gonna  
send you a new one every week.  
Now, I'll call you  
in a few weeks,  
and if you want to,  
we'll talk.  
There's a great  
article in there  
comparing today's quarterbacks  
with Johnny Unitas.  
Unitas would kick  
their butts.  
So, this is  
your sales pitch?  
I've been with the magazine  
for 20 years. I believe in it.  
Well, good for you.  
So, are you worried  
about all these rumors  
that your parent company  
is about to be sold?  
No, not really.  
I don't see how  
it would affect us.  
Well, hopefully it won't.  
You know,  
that Teddy K. character  
offered to buy my business  
a few years ago.  
I told him  
to go screw himself.  
My son-in-law  
says I'm a dinosaur.  
Don't knock dinosaurs. They ruled  
the earth for millions of years.  
They must've been doing  
something right  
Simply put, we are never  
gonna be able to reach  
this significant,  
untapped market,  
until we learn  
to think like them.  
In point of fact,

less than .05 percent  
of all cell phone users  
are under the age  
of 5 years old.  
That's why we have  
the T-Rex phone  
and the Triceratops phone,  
and the Pterodactyl phone.  
'Cause it's gonna change  
all of that  
and each one of these phones  
has its own unique ring.  
Mommy, Mommy, I want one.  
Buy me one for Christmas.  
P.F.G., Carter. P.F.G.  
What's P.F.G.?  
Pretty fricking good.  
Gentlemen, ladies. I have  
an announcement to make:  
It's on.  
Teddy K. has busted his move  
and we are taking over  
Waterman Publishing.  
Ow!  
Let's give it up for Teddy K.  
The man has vision.  
He's a maniac.  
And, I guess it's okay  
to tell you Teddy K.  
has personally asked me  
to go over there  
and turn around marketing  
in the magazine division.  
So, if you'll excuse me...  
Carry on.  
Waterman!  
That's incredible.  
Yeah, yeah,  
yeah, yeah, yeah.  
Mark. Mark,  
you're taking me with you.  
Tell me you are  
taking me with you.  
Carter, I'm gonna

take that place  
and whip its fat ass  
into shape.  
And...  
And?  
I want you to come run ad  
sales at Sports America.  
I knew it. I knew it.  
The magazine's  
a cash cow.  
It's the cornerstone.  
I mentioned your name  
to Teddy K.  
He liked what you did  
with cell phones.  
Oh, hold up,  
hold up. I'm...  
I'm sorry.  
Teddy K. knows my name?  
I'm gonna  
tell you something.  
And I don't want it  
to go to your head.  
You're being groomed.  
I'm being groomed?  
Yeah.  
Mark. Thank you.  
Thank you. I am going to kick  
so much ass for you.  
I'm gonna  
take no prisoners.  
I'll be your  
ninja assassin.  
Wow. You're the new me.  
No, I'm the new me.  
Congratulations.  
What's up?  
Hey, Dad.  
Hey, button.  
What are you  
still doing awake?  
Couldn't sleep.  
Can't sleep?  
What, were you worried

about something?

No, not really.

'Cause, uh,

you know if-- if-- if you are  
worried about something  
you can always talk to me  
about anything.

Remember? You know

when you were a little girl  
we crossed our hearts  
and said we'd always tell  
each other everything.

Be honest with one another.

Yeah.

I'm kind of tired.

Hmm. Okay.

We still gonna hit tomorrow?

Yeah, sure.

All right. I'll see  
you then. I love you.

I love you, too.

Hmm.

Uh, what time is it?

**It's after 3:**

Go back to sleep, honey.

Sorry I woke you up.

Hi, sweetheart.

Hi.

Honey,

does Alex have  
a new boyfriend?

Uh, no.

W- What about that  
Myron kid?

I think that  
they're just friends.

Yeah.

I'm pregnant.

What?

I'm sorry. I thought you said  
that you were pregnant.

Yeah.

You can't be pregnant.

Yeah, I can.  
I'm... I am.  
Now, how could  
that happen?  
Well, I think that  
you were there, too.  
No, honey.  
You know you're done  
with all that.  
That's what Dr. Steinberg  
said, but he was wrong.  
You're pregnant?  
Yep.  
Holy crap.  
Holy crap!  
Are you sure?  
Yeah.  
Does it feel like a boy?  
Right now it feels  
like a stomach flu.  
You can't be serious.  
Are you serious?  
I am serious.  
This is fine.  
This is fine.  
This is...  
This is fine.  
Yeah.  
That means when he's 21,  
I'll be 72.  
Three.  
Two.  
Three.  
Holy crap.  
I'm just so excited.  
I'm so excited.  
Is excitement contagious  
or what?  
Um, no.  
I'm being groomed.  
I'm being groomed.  
Do you have any idea  
what this means?  
That you're a chimpanzee?



It means that  
we're on the road.  
You know, things are  
fallin' into place.  
We can buy a bigger house.  
We can have kids. You know?  
I'm sorry.  
We got a life going on here!

**Carter, it's 3:**

How much more enthusiasm  
are we looking at here?  
15 minutes? An hour?  
Honey, I'm sorry.  
It's just,  
Teddy K. knows my name.  
Are you even  
qualified for this job?  
What? Yes. Sure.  
Selling cell phones,  
selling ad space.  
You know,  
it's all the same crap.  
Anyway, it's  
just a stepping-stone.  
Love you.  
Love you, too.  
The light.  
Yep.  
We're all gonna get fired.  
Well, anything's possible.  
No, it's not possible.  
It's probable.  
Did you hear  
about this Teddy K. guy?  
Hear about him?  
Everybody's heard about him.  
I heard he's an albino,  
but he covers it with makeup.  
Alicia.  
Yes. What?  
Are you fired?  
What? No!  
What? Why?

You haven't heard  
anything.  
Why? Are you fired?  
Uh, I'm sorry.  
Are-- are you saying  
I'm fired?  
No, no, not yet.  
I mean not yet, Dan.  
I'm... I can't  
predict the future. Um,  
the thing is, Dan,  
you're not head  
of ad sales anymore.  
Carter Duryea is.  
Who is Carter Duryea?  
Some hotshot from GlobeCom.  
This a bummer, Dan.  
It's a real bummer.  
But you're lucky. A lot of people  
are getting canned immediately  
across the company.  
Are you getting fired?  
Me? No.  
This is a joke.  
This is a joke.  
We have had our biggest  
year ever this year.  
My sales team  
works incredibly hard.  
I'm not gonna  
put up with this.  
Well, you have to  
put up with it.  
What are you gonna do,  
start somewhere new?  
You're not a kid anymore.  
You know how tough it is  
out there.  
People are cutting back.  
They're not looking for guys  
like you who make a decent salary.  
Hey, buddy, I am as pissed off  
about this as you are.  
So then why are you smiling?

l'm not smiling.  
Yeah, your lips  
are curling up.  
They do that naturally, Dan.  
Hold up! Hold up! Thank you.  
Thanks.  
47. Are you going  
to Sports America offices?  
Yeah.  
You an intern or something?  
Uh, no, my dad works there.  
Oh.  
Are you interning there?  
No, l'm starting  
a job there today.  
That's cool.  
Congratulations.  
Oh, thank you.  
l'm totally scared shitless.  
l have no idea what l'm doing.  
Don't tell anyone, okay?  
Okay.  
Please.  
Thank you.  
Dan, your daughter's here.  
She is?  
Hey, boss, what's this  
gonna do to our stock options?  
l have no idea.  
Don't call me ''boss.''  
Now, look. l insist.  
Let me take that.  
No, that's okay. l'll hold  
onto it. Oh, no, really.  
Dan, you hear anything?  
Are we fired?  
Mr. Colon is so excited  
to work with--  
Oh, God. l'm sorry.  
Christ.  
No, l'm sorry. You okay?  
l'm fine.  
lt was all my fault.  
Uh, you okay?

Yeah, uh, no broken bones.  
No harm, no foul.  
Terrific.  
Okay, terrific.  
Hey, champ.  
Hi, what are you  
doing here?  
Tennis.  
Oh, sorry.  
Yeah. Yeah.  
Why?  
Is today a bad day?  
Ah, no.  
No, no, it's-- it's fine.  
It's just... To hell with it.  
Let's...  
Let's go. Come on.  
Okay.  
You all right?  
Man, you sort of  
sucked today.  
I was just holding back  
to give you some confidence.  
Yeah, right.  
Yeah.  
You're an old man.  
Hey, Dad.  
Yeah?  
Remember when I said I might  
want to transfer to NYU?  
Yeah.  
Well, I got in.  
What, to NYU?  
Yeah.  
Sweetheart, that's fantastic.  
Yeah.  
I'm so proud of you.  
Thank you.  
You'd-- you'd have to  
live here in the city, though.  
Yeah. And, uh, I want to  
study creative writing.  
And NYU has  
such a great program.

But what about SUNY  
and the tennis team?  
Dad, I'm not gonna be  
a professional tennis player.  
Well, look, sweetheart, being  
a writer is just as tough.  
You're living in the city and I don't--  
I don't-- I don't like that idea.  
This is a lonely place.  
You got to have  
street smarts.  
I don't think  
that's such a good idea.  
Dad,  
I want to try  
living in the city.  
And  
I know that NYU  
is more expensive,  
but it would be such a  
great experience for me.  
Yeah. It is more expensive.  
Yeah.  
But  
it's your education.  
Yeah.  
That's the most  
important thing, right?  
Yeah.  
We could manage it.  
Dad!  
What?  
You're drenched.  
Oh. Oh.  
I think you're gonna be  
very happy here.  
You're really stepping  
into an all-star team.  
Oh, uh, this is  
Morty Wexler.  
Morty, Carter Duryea.  
Duryea. You're on  
the Ford account, right?  
Correct.

Well, it's a pleasure  
to meet you.  
You, too. I'm really looking  
forward to working with you.  
Oh, terrific.  
Thanks.  
Okay.  
'I really look forward  
to working with you.'  
Bite me.  
Uh, we have a terrific office for you.  
Great view. Um, it's not  
cleared out yet. But, uh...  
Not bad, huh?  
Uh, excuse me a second? I'm going  
to use the little boys' room.  
Oh, yeah. Sure.  
Tasty.  
May I help you?  
Oh, I'm sorry.  
This is your office.  
Yeah.  
You're the guy I bumped into.  
Dan Foreman. Carter Duryea.  
You're Carter Duryea?  
Yes, and, uh,  
it's a pleasure to meet you.  
The Carter Duryea that's  
come in to run ad sales?  
That's correct.  
How old are you?  
I'm 26 years old.  
Twenty-six  
and you're my new boss.  
Uh, I guess so.  
That's, uh,  
that's quite a...  
That's quite a kung-fu grip  
you got there, Dan.  
Oh, well. So,  
what kind of experience  
do you have in ad sales?  
Uh, well,  
I'll be honest with you, Dan.

Not much.  
How much?  
Um...  
None.  
None.  
That's not much.  
But I'm a fast learner, Dan.  
Hey, now that you know  
how old I am,  
how old are you?  
I'm 51.  
Fif... Wow!  
Wow. That's crazy.  
Yeah.  
That's like a year older  
than my dad, so that's weird.  
Oh, well, this is...  
This is great.  
You two have met.  
Are you kidding me?  
We are old buddies by now.  
Dan, it was a pleasure  
to meet you.  
Pleasure.  
Um, Dan, you want  
this door closed? Or...  
Yeah, you can go, um,  
go ahead and close it.  
So it was  
pretty unexpected.  
But it's-- it's like  
a pretty big promotion.  
That's fantastic!  
Way to go.  
So, uh, the Boxster S  
has more guts.  
You'll sure feel  
the extra horsepower.  
But if you really wanna go,  
I'd say  
take the 911 Carrera.  
I'm gonna go with the 911.  
/ You're a rhyme  
without reason /

/ And you know it so well /  
/ Well, who's  
the king of the season /  
/ Well, you never can tell /  
Go ahead.  
/ Though it's so plain  
to see /  
Carter.  
/ Surround sister /  
/ 'Cause I'm not afraid  
to fall /  
Yeah.  
/ No, I'm not afraid  
to fall //  
Jackass!  
Hey.  
Hi.  
Uh, I hurt my arm.  
But I-I'm okay.  
I'm glad you're okay.  
Carter.  
Kimmy.  
Kimmy, again?  
Seven months?  
We've been married...  
Come on.  
Okay, I know things have been  
a little off.  
I've been swamped at work.  
I mean, God, I should have  
taken you on a real honeymoon.  
Well, I should have just shut  
that cell phone off. It was...  
It was ringing off the hook.  
That's-- that's my bad.  
You know, this whole thing  
is my fault.  
Okay, here's the good news.  
I can change.  
I'm gonna change.  
This-- this has actually been a  
very good lesson for me. Thank you.  
Don't try to sell me, Carter.  
I love you, Kim.



Kim, I want to  
have kids with you.  
But I don't want to have kids  
with you.  
I don't even know  
if I want to have kids.  
I told you that.  
I told you that  
on our second date.  
Wow, I thought  
you were kidding.  
Carter, is this really  
such a surprise to you?  
Are you sleeping  
with somebody else?  
I was,  
but I broke up with him.  
Well, it must have been  
really rough on him.  
Well,  
I'll be at my parents'.  
They're really excited  
to have me back.  
We're gonna hear  
two heartbeats now.  
Mmm-hmm.  
That strong, slower one  
is yours, mom.  
And that... that's your  
baby's heartbeat.  
Oh, my God!  
Nice, strong heartbeat.  
That's your new baby, Dan.  
Dan?  
Yeah?  
Are you okay?  
Uh, yeah.  
That's fantastic.  
Uh, I'm feeling a little,  
uh...  
You are having  
a little bit of arrhythmia.  
Have you been drinking  
a lot of caffeine lately?

No.  
You under  
a lot of stress?  
Well, I...  
I did sort of  
get demoted at work.  
Ah.  
You what?  
Yeah.  
I, uh... We'll talk.  
Another?  
Yeah, just keep them coming.  
You don't even have to ask.  
How was everyone's weekend?  
Fun?  
I'm sorry. That was, uh...  
Um, I'd like to thank everyone  
for joining me here.  
Teddy K. has an...  
has a thing  
that what makes GlobeCom great  
is the men and women  
of GlobeCom.  
Is it like a thousand degrees  
in here or is it me?  
It's like...  
It's me.  
I have an agenda.  
And you're gonna learn this  
about me. I'm a machine.  
What was I saying  
about the...  
An agenda.  
An agenda, I have an agenda.  
Which is that I have to  
immediately, um,  
increase the ad pages here  
by 20 percent.  
20 percent? Carter, only a  
startup magazine can do that.  
Yeah, well, I think  
this team can do it, Dan.  
Um, how?  
Well, Morty,

basically what we--  
God,  
that's an awesome question.  
'How?'

And the answer  
is synergy.  
We need to team up here.  
Yeah, we need to synchronize  
and we need to synergize.  
We're not alone.  
We're not alone.  
We're part of  
one of the biggest multimedia  
and brand name companies  
in the known universe, okay?  
Let's-- let's take advantage  
of that, like, uh...  
Like...  
Krispity Krunch.  
Did anyone know that, uh,  
one of our sister companies  
is Krispity Krunch?  
So?  
So we talk to our brothers and  
sisters over at Krispity Krunch.  
We make a deal  
where we supply  
sports factoids  
to their boxes.  
So that when Joe Couch Potato  
is sitting there,  
he's, uh, snacking, he looks  
down, and what does he see?  
Sports America Krispity  
Krunch sports factoids.  
He's definitely buying  
more Krispity Krunch  
and not Krunch 'n Krackle  
which, by the way, looks  
and tastes exactly the same.  
But guess what?  
No sports factoids.  
And Krispity Krunch is so happy  
they guarantee us 28 pages a year.

Besides which,  
they know if they don't,  
Teddy K. is gonna be pissed.  
What is that? What am I  
talking about here, people?  
Synergy.  
Isn't that cheating?  
No, no. Hell, no.  
And, uh, Techline cell phones.  
We own Techline cell phones.  
Guess what we put  
on their browser?  
Factoids.  
Yes! Factoids! Synergy!  
And what else?  
Uh, box scores. And ads!  
We make a deal like a  
100,000 hits on the Internet  
has the equivalent value of  
one ad page of our hard copy.  
Are you getting it, people?  
The magazine has become  
just a portal  
to a synergized world  
of cross-promotion.  
We're gonna bust things  
wide open.  
We are gonna take things  
to the next level.  
Who's with me? Who's with me?  
Who-- who's psyched?  
Lou, are you psyched?  
Yeah.  
Yeah, I'm psyched.  
Okay.  
Alicia, are you psyched?  
Absolutely.  
Better. This guy. I'm sorry,  
I don't know your name yet.  
Hector.  
I'm in maintenance.  
That's cool. Hector...  
Hector,  
I know you're psyched.

I'm psyched!  
Yes, Hector's psyched!  
And if Hector's psyched,  
then you know I'm psyched.  
I am psyched for this team.  
Now who else is with me?  
Who's psyched?  
I'm psyched!  
Excellent. Who else? Come on.  
Who do you think will be  
the first to get canned?  
My money's on Dan.  
He's prehistoric.  
Sorry, Dan.  
Thanks for joining me  
for lunch.  
You like sushi?  
I'll just stick  
with the teriyaki.  
You should try some.  
The spicy tuna here is money.  
Come here. Get that.  
Get that.  
Yeah, go fishing, man.  
Yeah.  
Yeah.  
So I wanted to talk to you,  
because, uh,  
This is raw.  
...an increase  
in ad pages is...  
Well, it's really  
only part of the equation  
in terms of achieving  
the bottom line  
my bosses want me to hit.  
Understand, Teddy K. is making  
cuts across the board here.  
In point of fact,  
I have to cut  
\$300,000 salary from the  
sales team immediately.  
I don't make  
that much money, Carter.

I know how much  
you make, Dan.  
Well,  
I wish you'd told me  
that I was fired  
before I ate  
the goddamn fish.  
Oh, Dan! Dan! Dan!  
I'm-- I'm not letting you  
go here.  
You're not?  
No.  
You are an excellent salesman.  
You ran a good team.  
I think  
that you have the potential  
to be an awesome wingman here.  
An awesome wingman?

**B:**

- But, Carter, I definitely see the benefit for you  
in having an awesome wingman.  
But what is the benefit for  
me at this point in my career  
of being an awesome wingman?  
Well,  
one benefit at this point  
in your career  
is that you get  
to keep your job.  
That's a pretty good benefit,  
don't you think?  
Really? Really!  
Are you smiling?  
You're smiling!  
This is funny to you.  
Guess what? You have no idea  
what a nightmare you're about  
to step into, my friend.  
A- hole!  
We'll see how soon this place goes  
down the poop chute without me.  
Maybe there is justice  
in the world.

You enjoying yourselves?

Great.

/ Untie me,

I've said no vows /

/ The train is getting

way too loud /

Carter is ready for you.

/ I gotta leave here my girl /

/ Get on with my lonely life /

Dan, uh, I'd like you to take a  
look at one of these forms for me.

It's a 360 evaluation.

Mmm-hmm.

It's basically an evaluation  
from every angle.

That's why it's called a 360.

It's corporate policy.

But it would be great  
if I had it by Monday.

If you really want  
to get aggressive,

to penetrate that  
core demographic--

I believe that--

Dan, not now.

Sports America is the number one  
magazine, boys 13 to 18 in the country.

/ I spent 12 long months  
on the lam /

/ That's enough sitting  
on the fence /

Hi, leave me a message  
or don't.

Hi, it's me.

I mean, you know it's me.

Uh, just filling up the old  
mailbox. So give me a call  
or don't.

/ And go out of my head /

/ You love a sinking stone /

Here, boy.

/ That'll never elope /

/ So get used to  
the lonesome /

Oh, hi, Mrs. Cherneski.  
No, I didn't know  
he moved out.  
Well,  
tell him Carter says hi.  
Here, boy!  
Here, boy!  
Hey.  
And he is dropped  
right on the goal line.  
Tackled by Bob Colder,  
Leahey held on to the ball...  
Hello?  
Hey, Dan.  
It's Carter.  
Who?  
Carter Duryea.  
Thought we'd get  
the group together tomorrow.  
Maybe go over some  
business development ideas.  
Tomorrow's Sunday.  
I know. It'll be great. We'll  
get a great jump on the week.  
Not the whole day, just a  
couple of hours in the afternoon.  
I'll tell you what,  
I will see you there at noon.  
Uh, I'll bring some sushi.  
It'll be a lot of fun.  
Okay? Great.  
All right.  
/ You love a sinking stone /  
/ That'll never elope /  
/ So get used to  
the lonesome /  
/ Girl, you must atone some /  
/ Don't leave me  
no phone number there //  
What are you doing?  
What?  
Um, nothing.  
I was just, uh, seeing stars.  
Ever do that?



Yeah, when I was three.  
Hey, what are you doing here  
on a Sunday?  
Sunday is a fun day  
to kick some ass.  
Absolutely.  
Guess what? I have my  
whole team coming in today.  
Hey, Dan Foreman's here.  
You should really meet him.  
Yeah, I'd rather not get  
personally involved.  
Didn't we decide  
to let him go?  
Uh, no, we let Enrique Colon  
go instead. Remember?  
Yeah. That's right.  
Did a little colon cleansing.  
Get it?  
Hey, you want to grab  
some dinner tonight?  
Ooh, wish I could.  
I got to fly to Berlin to meet  
with some of our satellite guys.  
Ha, too bad.  
Somethin' wrong?  
Um...  
My wife and I are having some  
problems and, uh, I was just--  
Okay, I got to go.  
Listen, uh, you're gonna have  
to riff some more people, man.  
Okay. Riff them?  
Reduction in forces.  
Shitcan them.  
Right. Um, but I think we're  
gonna get ad pages up here.  
So I don't think  
we need to riff anybody yet.  
Well, sooner or later everybody  
has to deal with reality.  
Thanks for coming in.  
You, great job today.  
Louie, great job. You want to,

uh, grab a drink or something?  
You know, I'd love to, but I'm  
a recovering alcoholic.  
Well, better not, then.  
How about you, Morty.  
Drink?  
Uh, I'd better  
get home for dinner.  
My wife is slowly poisoning me to death  
and she gets very angry  
if I'm late.  
Okay. Alicia?  
Uh, you know what, I got  
to go home and do my hair.  
Oh, shut up.  
How about you, Dan? You want to,  
uh, grab a drink or something?  
It's Sunday.  
I have to go home and  
have dinner with my family.  
You want to have dinner  
with my family?  
Oh, yeah! Are you... Let me,  
uh, let me just grab my stuff.  
Wait.  
Who taught you  
how to drive?  
No one.  
No kidding.  
I'm home.  
Yes.  
Oh, this is what  
I'm talking about.  
This is like  
a real home-type home.  
Hey, sweetheart. This is  
Carter Duryea from the office.  
Hello, it's nice to meet you.  
Hey, Mrs. Foreman.  
What a pleasure  
to meet you.  
Thank you so much for  
having me into your home.  
You're very welcome.

I hope you like baked ziti.  
Baked ziti! Uh, this is...  
This is so perfect.  
That baked ziti. That's  
so... This is what I need.  
Like a-- Like a real,  
home-cooked thing.  
This is great.  
Is there something wrong  
with him?  
Clearly.  
Let's just feed him and get  
him the hell outta here, okay?  
He's really young.  
He's a lot younger than you.  
Yeah. Thank you for that.  
Thank you.  
So, um,  
I did the numbers on NYU.  
Do you know how expensive  
that place is?  
Hmm.  
Plus living expenses.  
Plus Jana's orthodonture.  
Plus baby costs.  
Don't worry about it.  
Well, that's not actually a solution  
to a problem. 'Don't worry about it.'  
I think we may have to  
take out a second mortgage.  
Why don't I just go into the living  
room and ask my boss for a raise?  
Oh, hey.  
I was, uh, just looking  
at you and...  
And you've...  
We never got to...  
That day in the elevator.  
My name's Carter Duryea.  
Yeah, I know who you are.  
Does my dad  
know you're here?  
Uh, your dad invited  
me over for dinner.

Technically.

Uh, who's that?

Uh, it's Dad's new boss.

You can't be Dad's new boss.

You're too young.

Yeah, and he's also  
scared shitless.

Wow, good memory.

And you're too cute  
to be Dad's boss.

Oh, well, thank you.

I got it!

So, uh, how's it going?

Okay.

So what are you  
doing here, really?

Uh, my wife left me, and today's  
the anniversary of our first date.

I found the idea of going  
home to be so depressing  
that I kind of leeches  
onto your dad  
and invited myself over  
for dinner.

Wow, you're sort of a  
bizarrely honest guy. Huh?

No.

No. Honestly, I'm...

I'm not.

Just around you,  
for some reason.

People would probably say  
that I'm an emotionally guarded  
anal-retentive asshole.

You wanna play foosball?

Okay.

Cool, I'll just change.

Okay.

Good. Yeah.

Do you think Alex could cope with  
living in the city on her own?

Well, I'm less worried about her  
coping with it than I am about you.

Yeah, well, frankly, I'd rather

keep her under house arrest  
with a homing device  
around her ankle.  
Then why did you agree to it  
without even talking to me?  
And why is your  
teenage boss here?  
And why am I so nauseous?  
I hardly had any morning  
sickness the first two times.  
Hey, hey, hey!  
and I'm so sick of it!  
Calm down.  
Let me have that.  
I'm not really  
that into tennis anymore.  
What I'm really not into  
is being the jock.  
You know, it's like people don't  
even invite me to their parties  
because they think  
I'm in training or something.  
Also, there's this rumor going  
around that I'm a lesbian.  
Man, that sucks.  
Or not. I don't...  
Not being a lesbian.  
Yeah, well, I'm not.  
It'd be one thing if I wanted to  
go pro and make a ton of money,  
but I'm not at that level.  
I've played girls  
at that level and I'm not.  
I mean, not that  
I'd want that, really.  
Their lives have peaked  
by the time they're like 21.  
Oh, nice.  
I wonder that  
about myself sometimes, too.  
Like maybe my life  
has peaked at 26.  
Maybe it's all  
downhill from here.

Well, it probably is.  
Yeah.  
Here you go.  
Keep the change.  
Dinner's ready!  
I'm on an important call!  
With who?  
My boyfriend.  
Your what?  
Hi, this is Mr. Foreman. Who  
is this and how old are you?  
All right.  
Well, I just wanted to say  
if you ever give my daughter an  
alcoholic beverage or a joint,  
I will hunt you down  
and neuter you.  
Dad!  
Dinner's ready!  
There you are.  
You kids ready  
to come in for dinner?  
God.  
I lived in the same town  
as my mom.  
And I mean...  
You know what I mean?  
The entire...  
The whole family thing was--  
Right.  
Yes, I'm...  
No, no, it's really not  
a good time right now.  
I know, but I  
really like him a lot.  
Oh, my God, this pizza's  
amazing. Where'd you get this?  
It's from a wonderful little  
Italian restaurant called Domino's.  
So, are you really  
Dad's new boss?  
We're not, uh,  
we're really more colleagues.  
No, that's not true. He's

the boss man. I'm the wingman.  
Are you married?  
You're wearing a wedding ring.  
Um, yes, I am, sort of.  
Um, or...  
Yes, no. I'm married.  
So you're like  
prematurely old.  
Jana, would you  
pass the pizza?  
I got it. Oh, my God, Dan. My bad.  
I'm sorry. I mean, I got it. I got it.  
Carter, Carter, C-Carter.  
Only my wife  
is allowed to touch me there.  
Excuse me.  
I'm gonna go upstairs.  
I'm gonna change  
my pants again.  
Good job.  
Thank you.  
Thank you so much. Terrific  
pepperoni, by the way.  
You're very welcome.  
Goodbye. Go home.  
Okay.  
Good night.  
Thanks again.  
/ She says, ''Wake up,  
it's no use pretending'' /  
/ I'll keep stealing,  
breathing her /  
/ Birds are leaving  
over autumn's ending /  
/ One of us will die  
inside these arms /  
/ Eyes wide open /  
/ Naked as we came /  
/ One will spread our /  
/ ashes around the yard /  
/ She says, ''If I leave  
before you, darling /  
/ Don't you waste me  
in the ground'' /

/ I lay smiling  
like our sleeping children /  
/ One of us will die  
inside these arms /  
Oh, here.  
I got you some pepper spray.  
/ Eyes wide open,  
naked as we came /  
Oh, how sweet.  
Yeah.  
And I've installed surveillance  
equipment throughout the dorm.  
So I'll know if you're  
getting into trouble.  
Okay.  
/ One will spread our  
ashes around the yard //  
Be careful.  
Okay.  
I love you, Dad.  
Love you, too.  
See you later.  
Bye.  
Sign here, here, and here.  
And you've got  
your second mortgage.  
Sign, uh, there, there,  
and there.  
And it's official.  
You're divorced.  
Okay, two things.  
First, Steckle is organizing  
a company basketball league.  
I'm gonna be  
sales team captain.  
You are my new power forward.  
And second, I heard you're  
taking the guys from Rums Jamaica  
to the Knicks game  
on Wednesday night?  
Yeah.  
You have to run  
that stuff by me, man.  
Run it by you?



They're my clients.  
No, they're not, Dan.  
They're GlobeCom clients.  
That's why we're gonna be takin'  
'em to the GlobeCom luxury suite.  
Well, these aren't  
luxury suite type of guys.  
Dan, everyone's  
a luxury suite type of guy.  
Uh, we can't go there on  
Wednesday, because Teddy K.  
is hosting Bill Clinton,  
Jay-Z, and Kofi Annan.  
We're gonna do it  
Thursday.  
I'll bring them  
to a concert.  
Look, I gotta get these guys  
to up their buy by 18 pages.  
We gotta start kicking  
some ass here.  
I'm gonna have to let  
some people go.  
Why do you say  
'let them go'?  
They don't want to go.  
Why don't you just say,  
'fire them'?  
Because it sounds better.  
Not to the person  
getting fired, it doesn't.  
/ You wanna get with me? /  
/ Put 'em up /  
/ Take long trips with me /  
/ Yeah /  
This guy was shot 12 times  
and pronounced legally dead.  
Hence the name.  
Someone should tell him  
it's spelled D-E-A-D.  
They're afraid to.  
He's got the number one  
hit single right now.  
He's a protege of 50 Cent.

Why don't they  
just call him ''Nickel''?  
What?  
20 years, your jokes  
still haven't improved.  
Want you guys to meet  
my colleague.  
This is Petey  
from K-Jam Sneakers.  
Hey, hey.  
Hmm.  
Cross-promotional idea.  
You buy a certain amount  
of Jamaican rum, boom.  
You get a discount  
on running shoes. Done.  
Yeah, sounds like  
a great fit.  
Get a lot of drunk people  
running around.  
Dan. You want to go  
get some air?  
Yeah.  
Be back in a bit.  
Word. Hey, not too long. We  
got chimichangas on the way.  
/ You wanna get with me?  
Take long trips with me //  
Sorry about the concert.  
They wouldn't let me just get  
regular seats for the Knicks game.  
No, it's okay.  
Look, Dan. I've been  
instructed not to advertise  
with Sports America anymore.  
What?  
We were bought out last year by this  
company called Continental Brands.  
Apparently, the company  
that bought us  
and the company  
that bought you  
are having a feud over wireless  
communications in Europe.

Wireless communications?  
What-- what the hell does that  
have to do with our business?  
Nothing. But we have  
this corporate policy now.  
Look, I'm sorry, Dan.  
Dan, I have to  
fire Louie and Morty.  
No, you don't.  
I do.  
We're gonna get  
those ad pages back.  
We'll get those...  
Oh, my God! It's like  
you don't get it or something.  
That was a huge client.  
Steckle gave me  
a bottom line here.  
I have to increase pages.  
We already got Harry, Pete,  
and Alicia on the Ford account.  
Morty's the logical choice.  
Oh, and the new woman at Pepsi  
thinks that Louie's a sexist.  
Guess why.  
He called her ''sugar tits.''  
He's an idiot.  
Come on,  
you can't fire these guys.  
These are my guys.  
They've been with me  
for eight years.  
I hired them  
at the same time.  
Yeah, I know, Dan.  
That's why they have  
huge, bloated salaries.  
And they're not  
pulling their weight.  
I'm sorry.  
Well, I've been here  
for 23 years.  
My salary's bigger than theirs.  
Why don't you just fire me?

Do you want me to fire you?  
Because I could, Dan.  
You have  
a family that loves you.  
You have a kid on the way.  
I look at you sometimes  
and it's like...  
You have people  
who need you.  
Do you really wanna put them  
in jeopardy for Louie and Morty?  
/ Be this sunset  
soon forgotten /  
/ And what's worth keepin' /  
/ Sun still sinkin' /  
/ Down and down /  
/ Once again /  
/ Down and down /  
/ Gone again //

What, are you  
living here now?  
What... We, uh...  
What time is it?

**7:**

Look, I've been thinking  
all night.  
And, uh, if it has to be done,  
I should be the one to do it.  
Guys, I feel really terrible  
about what I'm about to say.  
But I'm afraid  
you're both being let go.  
Let go?  
What does that mean?  
It means  
you're being fired, Louie.  
Believe me, if I had any  
choice in this, I would...  
Anyway, I thought  
you should hear it from me  
because I'm the one  
who hired you.  
Oh. Wait a minute.

Are you being fired, too?

No, no. Uh...

This isn't my decision.

Oh, so it's not your decision, so therefore it's not your fault, right?

I didn't say that.

You know,

this is bullshit.

Louie.

No, no, Morty.

You know something? I

look at you like a brother.

I would've stood in front of a bus for you, you piece of shit!

You've turned into a real corporate asshole, you know that, Dan?

Louie.

Do me a favor. If you see my friend Dan, tell him I'm looking for him.

Louie!

Dan, what the hell am I gonna tell my wife?

I mean, she already wears the pants.

Now she's gonna wear the tie and jacket, too.

Morty, I am

so very sorry.

I know this must have been hard for you, Dan.

You were a good boss.

I mean it. You always treated everyone with respect. And I...

Look, I appreciate it.

What's this?

My 360 evaluation.

Uh, you rated yourself,

'Does not meet expectations.'

Yeah.

I'm gonna cry.

Don't. I'll call you.

Take care, Morty.

Okay, good luck.

Morty.

Oh.  
I can't believe this.  
Me neither.  
You gonna be okay?  
I'll be okay.  
Take care.  
No way! What are...  
What are you doing here?  
Hey! Um,  
just reading.  
I- I've-- I go to NYU now.  
No way!  
Yeah.  
You did it! That's...  
That's awesome.  
Yeah, yeah.  
What about you?  
I'm renting  
an apartment in TriBeCa.  
Oh, yeah?  
Yeah.  
Wow, that's awesome.  
Do you drink coffee?  
No! Uh, normally I just  
hook up to an IV, actually.  
My, you sure can pound back  
the caffeine, huh?  
Is that why  
your leg is shaking like that?  
I think it is. Yeah.  
You're not wearing  
your wedding band.  
Oh. Yeah.  
I'm now officially  
the first person  
in my high school class  
to get divorced.  
Oh, I'm sorry.  
No, it's okay.  
When I think about it  
honestly,  
it was pretty much coming  
since our second date.  
How's... How are you?

How's school going?  
It's pretty good.  
It's pretty good. I mean,  
you know, it's, it's, uh...  
it's hard to meet new people  
as a transfer.  
Everybody's got  
their own little cliques  
and they're not sure if  
they want to admit one more.  
But, uh, my creative writing  
classes are really great.  
Oh, yeah,  
creative writing?  
Yeah.  
I've just, uh...  
I've always been  
interested in stories  
and escaping  
into other people's lives.  
I guess 'cause  
mine always seems so boring.  
I'm cursed with  
a functional family.  
But writing  
isn't exactly practical.  
So I think I might  
double major in business.  
Oh, no. Don't do that.  
Stick with  
the creative writing.  
Strange, you know,  
sometimes you seem sort of  
bummed out about your career,  
but you're so successful.  
No, I'm not bummed. Uh...  
God, my career is pretty much  
what I have in my life.  
That and a dented Porsche,  
right?  
Your family  
must be really proud of you.  
My mom is.  
You know, she's...

She's this kind of hippie.  
So she's not really into  
the corporate thing.  
And my dad left home  
when I was 4,  
so, you know, I never  
really got to know him.  
His family had money,  
but, uh,  
he was this kind of artist  
you know, in quotes,  
slash druggy.  
Uh, he was in this cult  
for a while.  
Do you, do you...  
Let's get out of here.  
Do you want to, like,  
take a walk or something?  
I'm like, uh... Now that I've  
told you my entire life story.  
Sure.  
Although, uh, there isn't  
much left to talk about.  
Really?  
/ Still a little bit  
of your taste /  
/ In my mouth /  
/ Still a little bit of you  
laced /  
/ With my doubt /  
/ Still a little hard  
to say /  
...wear these giant muumuus  
that were see-through.  
/ What's going on /  
They were see-through?  
Yeah.  
That's cool.  
/ Stones taught me to fly /  
/ Love taught me to lie /  
Thank you.  
Thank you.  
So...  
/ Life taught me to die /



/ So it's not hard to fall /  
Right.  
/ When you float  
like a cannonball //  
You want to see  
my dorm room, maybe?  
Hey,  
don't get the wrong idea.  
I-- I don't invite guys  
to my room often.  
Or ever, actually.  
Okay.  
Okay.  
Oh.  
I'm having a major  
college flashback here.  
Aw, come on, old man.  
My roommate's  
out for the night.  
Really? She's, oh...  
I was really looking forward  
to meeting her.  
Yeah, she's only  
mildly chemically imbalanced.  
Ta-da!  
Oh.  
Yeah, this is awesome.  
Yeah, it's okay.  
Uh, I heard this rumor  
that alcohol  
impairs your judgment.  
I wish you weren't so beautiful.  
I'm not.  
No, Alex. You are.  
Thank you.  
Well, it looks like  
everything's perfect.  
So why are you still talking?  
What?  
Oh, nothing.  
I was just thinking  
about how my dad said  
he put surveillance cameras  
in the building.

That's...  
That's hilarious.  
Where to now?  
You're all going  
to the 29th floor.  
Oh, great.  
I hear there's, uh,  
fantastic air-conditioning  
on that floor.  
Hey, Dan, how's your commute?  
Can you believe  
we're moving offices already?  
By the way, first b-ball game  
against the 51st floor corporate VPs.  
So, uh... Oh, weird.  
I guess that's this floor now.  
What's wrong with you?  
Me? Um... Are you...  
Nothing. Um, nothing.  
You're acting jumpy.  
Did you switch from mocha  
to crack?  
Whoa, Dan. That's, uh...  
You're coming off  
really paranoid right now.  
You're weirding me out,  
buddy.  
Crack. That's...  
/ Well, it's so good /  
/ I didn't have to make it /  
/ It's so good /  
Hey, Alex.  
Haven't talked to you  
in a few days.  
It's your dad, by the way.  
Give us a call.  
/ 'Cause I'm ten years ahead /  
/ And you're the echo  
of the things I say /  
/ Yes, I'm ten years ahead /  
You understand this is totally  
demoralizing for me, so...  
Sorry.  
I don't think

you should force it, honey.  
Don't force it.  
Don't say it.  
/ Well, it's no good /  
/ Revolving around me /  
Hey, Alex.  
Uh, left a message for you  
at the dorm and on your phone.  
Guess you have  
your cell phone turned off.  
Give us a call.  
/ When you cannot  
reach me /  
I'm fired?  
/ 'Cause I'm ten years ahead /  
/ And you're the echo  
of the words I say /  
I'm sorry.  
/ Yes, I'm ten years ahead //  
But I've worked here  
for 5 years.  
It's been an honor.  
Okay, you ready?  
Will you be okay  
with that thing?  
Oh, yeah, fine.  
Hey, uh, what's that big guy doing here?  
He's one of the moving men.  
Uh, I guess, uh, Steckle  
recruited him for his VP team.  
Oh, that's fair.  
Wonder if  
I can still dunk.  
You could dunk?  
Oh, yeah.  
Can't you? You're 26.  
Heads up!  
Whoa! Hey.  
What's up?  
Word on the street is,  
Teddy K.'s on the prowl.  
Soon as he gets back from his  
around-the-world balloon trip,  
he's gonna go munch

on Continental Brands.  
Yeah, yeah, yeah.  
Hey, great.  
Maybe they'll advertise  
in the magazine again.  
I'm sorry, who are you?  
Mark, this is Dan Foreman.  
He's the one  
I was telling you about,  
helped us close  
that Toys 'R' Us deal.  
Oh, Carter's being modest.  
He did most of the work.  
Aw.  
That's beautiful.  
Maybe you two  
should get a room.  
You pussies ready  
to get schooled?  
Oh!  
Not in my house!  
No, no, no.  
Do it, baby. Do it, baby.  
It's for me. For me.  
Go ahead, donkey!  
You can't guard me.  
Get down. Get down there!  
Mine. He's mine. Help. Help.  
Yes!  
Let's go! Get down, Jimmy.  
Yo, Krouse! Fist! Fist!  
That's right! Move!  
Come on. Come on.  
I'll take the big man.  
Hey, ease up, my man.  
You're gonna have  
a heart attack.  
What's the matter?  
Can't take a little D?  
Open! Get open!  
Let's go, Dan! Yes!  
Yeah, yeah!  
Throw it down!  
Dunk it!

Oh, shit.

I'm okay. I'm okay.

I'll be right back.

Just give me a second.

Damn.

This is Alex's cell phone.

Please leave a message.

Thanks.

/ Eyeless in the morning sun /

/ You were pale and mild,

a modern girl /

/ Taken with thought,

still prone to care /

/ Makin' tea

in your underwear /

/ You went out in the yard

to find //

What's her name?

Who? What? Who?

The fish.

Oh. Uh, it's a he.

And, uh, his name is Buddy.

Ah.

Does Buddy want

a friend?

Buddy had a friend.

Um, he ate him. So...

You mind if I,

uh-- uh...

Sure. Yeah.

You... Yeah.

I want to,

I want to ask you something.

Okay.

When, uh...

When you were 18,

did you ever return

your parents' phone calls?

Uh, well,

they never called.

But, uh, yeah,

I'm sure I would've.

Well, my oldest daughter,

she won't call me back.

And I feel like going down  
to NYU and kidnapping her  
so I can stop  
worrying about her.  
That sounds like  
a really bad idea.  
Uh, look, Alex seems, um,  
from the very brief time  
that I met her,  
to be pretty savvy.  
I don't think you have  
to worry about her too much.  
She's a smart,  
terrific woman.  
Girl. Or smart young lady.  
Whatever.  
What I'm trying to say  
is that, uh,  
I think she can  
probably take care of herself.  
Dan, you seem to have  
the perfect marriage.  
How do you do it?  
You just pick the right one  
to be in the foxhole with  
and then when you're outside  
of the foxhole,  
you keep your dick  
in your pants.  
Well, that's poetic.  
Oh, my God.  
Did she outdo herself or what?  
All right. Oh, yeah. Make way.  
Coming through  
with the cake here.  
Oh, hey, Theo. How's...  
Hey, uh,  
where do I put this?  
All right.  
It's a rager, huh?  
Okay.  
Are you still glad you decided  
not to have a birthday party?  
Yep,

not in the mood this year.  
Well, Mom says  
you could use a little fun.  
She says you should lighten  
up for the sake of your health.  
She does, does she?  
They're here. Everybody hide.  
You go ahead, sweetheart.  
I'm going to  
check the mailbox.  
Okay. Cool.  
Quiet, he's going to be here  
in a second.  
Surprise!  
Surprise?  
Dad!  
Hey, Morty.  
Hey, nice party.  
Thanks for coming.  
Sure.  
How are you?  
Not so good,  
not so good.  
I mean psychologically.  
Oh, I'm sorry.  
That's okay.  
Anyway,  
my wife got a promotion.  
I'm hoping  
she'll raise my allowance.  
But this is good punch.  
Happy birthday.  
Good party.  
You look--  
you look really beautiful.  
Thank you.  
And, um...  
This is really not a  
big deal. But I, uh...  
I got something for you.  
It's not my birthday.  
Go on.  
Holy shit.  
Wow! Are these real diamonds?

It's too expensive.  
No. No, don't. No.  
I feel funny.  
I'm sorry. I don't...  
I mean, it's not... I-- I...  
It just felt good to...  
It's sweet.  
It's very sweet.  
Thank you.  
You're the kind of person  
that's it's good to be  
in a foxhole with.  
We're not in a foxhole.  
We're in a Porsche.  
A sling.  
Yes.  
Betsy, I wish you well, too.  
Let's see, what... Wow.  
And this could be what?  
That's good.  
Epsom salts.  
Do you like them?  
Imported from Jersey.  
Don't tell me  
you already have some.  
It's got that easy--  
easy-pour spout on it, too.  
Special for you.  
Thanks.  
She waits.  
Okay.  
Hey.  
Hi.  
Sorry I'm late.  
Work has been  
just nuts.  
That's okay.  
I have a class at 3:00.  
Oh, you're... You're  
wearing the necklace.  
Yeah. Yeah.  
I feel like an impostor.  
But it's nice.  
An impostor?



No, you look...  
Hey. Doesn't she look beautiful?  
She does.  
Now, we have  
three specials today.  
Avocado soup  
with awapuhi oil,  
bluefin tuna with Awapuhi  
and jalapeno sashimi.  
We have calamari fritti  
with Awapuhi oil  
on the side.  
We also have, uh,  
sicafreed lobster tail.  
Can I get that  
with a side of Awapuhi oil?  
Welcome.  
May I help you?  
Oh, shit.  
Hi,  
is there going to be a third?  
I have just one question.  
Are you sleeping with him?  
I'm going to get you folks  
some bread.  
Uh, Dan,  
this isn't what it looks like.  
Oh, yeah?  
What does it look like?  
Tell me. What do you  
think it looks like?  
Well, I'm sure it looks like  
some kind of sleazy, tawdry...  
Alex, I asked you a question.  
Are you sleeping with him?  
What do you want me to say,  
Dad?  
Get up.  
What?  
Get up.  
Dad!  
Pardon me, sir, but I don't  
think you should treat--  
Back off, before I drop-kick

you across this restaurant.  
You are a piece of shit!  
Dan, I love her.  
You what?  
I love her.  
I love you.  
You love her?  
She's my daughter.  
She's in college.  
She's a college student.  
I took out a fucking second  
mortgage so she could go.  
Three years ago  
she was in braces.  
I'm sorry.  
This guy.  
You had to sleep with him?  
Dad, I...  
Dad...  
Dad.  
Dad! Wait, I'm sorry.  
This had nothing  
to do with you.  
He's my boss, Alex.  
I know.  
But it just happened.  
We made a deal,  
remember?  
We made a deal we'd always  
be honest with one another.  
Dad, I was like 5 years old  
when we made that deal.  
Yeah.  
I liked you better then.  
That's awful.  
That's an awful thing  
to say.  
Dad, please don't walk away.  
I want to talk to you.  
Why? You don't need my  
advice about anything.  
Hey, you.  
Hey.  
Hey, Carter.

Wow, that's some shiner.

Thanks.

Maya, could we have  
some privacy, please?

Sure. Absolutely.

Sit down.

Hey, can I get you some ice  
for that?

Oh, yeah. Thank you.

Um, there's no ice.

But the soda's cold.

Oh, thanks.

Look, I wanted to apologize,  
uh, for my timing when...

Uh, with the 'L' word.

It just kind of slipped out.

But I've been thinking  
about it a lot lately,  
and it's how I feel.

It's really important to me--

Oh, that's really sweet.

Well, I mean it.

I know

you probably think you do.

But I-I've been doing  
a lot of thinking, too,  
and I'm

taking

anthropology classes.

And I'm doing a double major.

Yeah.

And I'm just...

I'm really busy.

Yeah.

Uh, I'm just not...

I'm not ready

for a big commitment.

Yes, that's...

That's what I'm saying.

Look, when I said

I loved you,

I didn't mean that I wanted  
to interfere in your classes  
or, you know, whatever.

I'm not talking about marriage or anything yet.

Carter. Look.

I've had an amazing time with you,

and I think

you're a great guy.

But you are on the rebound.

No, I'm not.

Carter, you are.

I mean, it was not that long ago that your wife left you.

Best thing

that ever happened to me.

Well, that's great.

But then that's a good thing whether you're with me or not.

I think we should stop seeing each other.

Alex.

Alex, come on.

I just want you to know I enjoyed talking to you more than

maybe anyone

in my entire life.

Thank you.

Me, too.

Dad,

where have you been?

Your cell phone was off.

I tried to call you

like a thousand times.

What happened?

Where's your mom?

There you are.

Are you okay?

I'm fine. Yes, I'm fine.

The baby's fine.

I had a little scare.

There was some bleeding.

What? What is it?

A placenta previa.

It sounds bad,

but, uh, it's okay.  
I just need some rest.  
If anything ever happened to  
you, I'd just have to pack it in.  
Oh, I'm afraid you're going to  
be stuck with me for a while.  
How's she doing?  
She's okay.  
You know,  
I broke up with Carter.  
Because of me?  
No. Because of me.  
I'm sorry I lied to you.  
But, you know,  
I think you should know  
that Carter didn't try  
to seduce me or anything.  
If anything,  
it was the other way around.  
I really don't want  
to hear the details.  
I mean, unless you  
want to tell me, and...  
No. No, not particularly.  
Good.  
You must think  
I'm disgusting.  
Disgusting?  
Why on earth  
would I think that?  
I didn't know that you  
took out a second mortgage.  
I don't need to go to NYU.  
SUNY's fine.  
It's fine.  
No, no,  
you are staying at NYU.  
Look, Alex.  
You're a really smart woman.  
And you can take care  
of yourself.  
And I'm going to try  
and adjust.  
You don't have to change,

Dad.  
Yeah. I do.  
It's going to be okay.  
Muchachos!  
Good.  
Hello, how are you? I know.  
Tell him not to be late  
this time.  
Hi, how you doing?  
Good to see you.  
Hi. Oh, nice brooch.  
Thank you, sir.  
Must be paying her  
too much money.  
Mark Steckle.  
Hi.  
Ah, Mark Steckle,  
how are you?  
Very psyched.  
How's it going?  
Very good.  
Good, good.  
Right this way.  
Hi.  
How you doing?  
Nice to see you.  
How are you?  
Good to see you.  
Thank you.  
Carter Duryea.  
Oh, yes. Cell phones.  
Yes. Thank you.  
I'm at Sports America now.  
Well, that's the flagship.  
What happened to your eye?  
Yeah, what happened there?  
I fell--  
I fell asleep at my computer.  
Just kind of  
banged right into the monitor.  
Those things  
can be dangerous.  
Keep up the good work.  
I wouldn't be surprised

if he announces  
another big takeover today.  
Teddy K.!

Great to see you. Thank you.  
Thank you.

Synergy. What does it mean?  
Why does a business  
swim with it  
and sink without it,  
in this new ocean  
of megabytes,  
streaming video  
and satellites?  
Every day,  
the world becomes  
more complex.  
And to survive  
in a complex world,  
we need complex bonds  
to interface with it.  
In this room,  
I see this.  
What we're trying to get to,  
is this.  
This is unbreakable.  
This is inevitable.  
What are we building here?  
Is it a company?  
Or are we building a new country  
with no national boundaries?  
A new democracy  
for the consumer.  
A new democracy  
with a new electorate.  
24-hour music videos  
in Kuala Lumpur.  
Computers with parts  
manufactured in Japan,  
Greenland, Idaho, India.  
A soft drink ad  
going out simultaneously  
to seven different continents.  
The Dalai Llama  
eating his Krispity Krunch

while uploading prayers  
onto the Net.  
Woman's World magazine.  
Well, why not Woman's World  
Channel across the world?  
Computers.  
Why not a computer section  
in Sports America magazine?  
Uh, excuse me.  
Excuse me.  
Yes?  
Uh, uh...  
Uh, my name is, uh, uh,  
Dan Foreman. I...  
I work for Sports America  
and I'm not sure  
I-- I understand  
what you're talking about.  
W- what I mean is-- is  
what do computers have to do  
with sports?  
Are you...  
Are-- are you literally saying  
that there should be  
a section in the magazine  
about computers?  
Who's going to want to  
read that?  
Um...  
And, uh...  
I- I'm not sure  
I understand  
how the way  
the world is changing  
is actually going to change  
how we do business.  
We're still selling  
a product, right?  
Which hopefully  
someone needs.  
We're human beings with other  
human beings for customers.  
So I don't see how this  
company is like its own country.



I mean, just because we sell  
different kinds of things,  
that doesn't mean we should  
operate by our own laws, does it?  
Besides which, countries,  
at least democratic ones,  
they have some obligation to  
their citizens, don't they?  
So how do layoffs  
and bottom line thinking  
fit into that?

Dan Foreman.

Sports America.

You ask

some excellent questions.

Excellent,

excellent questions.

I'm glad you asked them.

And I'm leaving it to you,

to all of you,

to answer them.

Hmm.

Teddy K.!

Teddy K.! Teddy K.!

Oh, my God, Dan.

Oh, my God.

Good, you're both in here.

You,

I'll talk to in a second.

You, have you lost

your frigging mind?

Well, he said

they were excellent questions.

Okay,

you think this is funny.

You think it's funny

to disrespect a great man.

Do you know who you were

just talking to in there?

That was Teddy K.!

Teddy K., God damn it!

Look,

we've been carrying

your fat, bloated salary

for way too long.  
I want you  
out of this building  
within the next  
10 minutes.  
I'm going to my office.  
I'm going to smoke  
a nice Cuban cigar  
and try to forget  
that you ever existed.  
You, in my office now.  
Mark, don't do that.  
Excuse me?  
Look.  
The guy busts his ass and--  
And what?  
Nothing. I'm sorry.  
I just... If you fire him,  
you're going to have to  
fire me, too.  
Wait.  
Let me get something  
straight here.  
You're throwing yourself in  
with him?  
With this useless,  
over-the-hill loser?  
Think here.  
Think about what you're doing,  
because if you're not careful,  
you could end up like him.  
I guess that  
that would be okay.  
All right.  
Then you're fired, too,  
you little shit.  
Well, that's too bad,  
'cause, uh, you're gonna lose a huge  
account that Dan and I've been working on.  
It was gonna save  
the year for us.  
Without it, the magazine's  
pretty deep in the red.  
Really? What account is that?

You think  
we'd actually tell you?  
You're bluffing.  
I don't bluff.  
I'm not  
that good of a salesman.  
Yeah, well,  
I don't give a crap.  
I think Teddy K. will.  
See, I'm gonna call him  
and I'm gonna tell him  
that you single-handedly drove  
his most profitable magazine,  
his flagship,  
right into the ground.  
And he'll remember my name.  
He likes  
what I did with cell phones.  
You've got 24 hours,  
or you're both gone.  
Any ideas?  
One.  
You got  
all your research?  
Yep.  
Follow my lead.  
So, um,  
how are your daughters?  
They're great. Thanks.  
How about  
your grandkids?  
Uh, they're fine.  
My son-in-law has just  
enrolled our oldest, Ralphy,  
in a computer camp,  
whatever the hell that is.  
Uh, this is my boss,  
Carter Duryea.  
It's a pleasure to meet you,  
Mr. Kalb.  
You have a really awesome company here.  
You... It's a really  
awesome, awesome--  
Your boss? He looks

more like your nephew.  
Well, I've, uh, certainly been  
learning a lot from Dan.  
So what happened to your eye?  
That's one of the things  
he learned from me.  
Are you saying that you  
punched him in the eye? Why?  
Well, it's... We don't have  
to really go into it here.  
No, no, no, please, please.  
I'm-- I'm-- I'm rather curious.  
Why did I hit you?  
He called me  
a dinosaur.  
He said  
I was out of date.  
That I'd better  
step in line.  
So you slugged him?  
It was a fair fight.  
Hmm?  
Right.  
Mr. Kalb, we have a sister  
company, Krispity Krunch,  
that I think we could do a really  
exciting cross-promotion with here,  
all in the GlobeCom family.  
Carter, Carter.  
I think that we  
could achieve--  
Carter, it's ok.  
Mr. Kalb,  
I don't want get into facts and figures  
with you today. You know them already.  
I just want to ask you  
one question.  
What is your hesitation  
about advertising  
with Sports America magazine?  
My hesitation is that our ad  
budget is already overextended.  
My son-in-law has put a lot  
of money into cable and online.

And now he wants to plow even  
more money back into it. But...  
But what?  
But he is such an asshole!  
I mean,  
I built this business.  
I know more about running this  
than he ever will.  
So, yeah. I'm gonna make a  
major ad buy in your magazine.  
And then I'm gonna restructure  
the whole damn ad campaign.  
That is great news.  
Thank you, Mr. Kalb.  
Oh. Thank... Yes.  
Thank you so much, sir.  
You know, I don't give a shit  
about Krispity Krunch.  
Let's just stick  
with the magazine, okay?  
You really slugged him?  
Yeah. Carter.  
Oh, my God.  
Oh, my God, that was amazing.  
That was unbelievable!  
God,  
that was actually fun.  
What Kalb  
really needed to see  
was an old fart who beat the crap  
out of a young punk half his age.  
And you know  
what the best thing is?  
It's the right thing to do.  
It will improve  
his business.  
Wow, you actually, uh...  
You actually  
believe in this stuff, huh?  
Of course I do.  
Why else would I do it?  
Hmm?  
Hey, Dan. Where you been?  
Los Angeles.

We made  
a huge sale.  
Congratulations.  
So did Teddy K.  
He sold the company  
to CalCor Communications.  
Mark! What happened?  
I thought you said Teddy K.  
was buying another company.  
That's what they told me,  
but he sold us.  
I'm out.  
Wait, you're out?  
Yeah. They're reorganizing  
the whole company.  
You're out, too.  
I think you're in.  
I'm in what?  
Your old job.  
What?  
Running the department?  
That's the rumor.  
The whole thing  
seems so arbitrary.  
I feel used.  
Yeah.  
Kind of tough to know  
you're replaceable, huh?  
I'm-- I'm sorry  
you lost your jobs.  
/ Came in close,  
I heard a voice /  
/ Standing stretching  
every nerve /  
/ I had to listen,  
had no choice /  
/ I did not believe  
the information /  
/ Just had to  
trust imagination /  
/ My heart was going  
boom, boom, boom /  
/ Son, he said /  
/ Grab your things,

I've come to take you home /  
/ Yeah, back home //

Hey, Dan.

Hey, Carter.

Come on in.

Have a seat.

Nice office.

Yeah.

So.

How have you been  
the last month?

I've been good.

Really good.

It's a little weird, uh,  
not having to get up,  
go to work in the morning.

That's why

I want to talk to you.

I want to offer you a job.

I know

we definitely had our moments.

But I think you're a good  
manager and a good salesman.

And I want you to come here  
and be my second-in-command.

Wow, Dan.

Uh, I...

I really appreciate that.

Uh, more than you know.

And I...

I think if I really want  
to do this for a living,  
there's no one I could learn  
from more than you. But I...

Look, I don't know what  
I want to do with my life.

I know that I want it  
to mean something to me  
the way that

this means something to you.

Oh.

God,

do you think I'm being stupid?

No. No. I...

I think that sounds right.  
So how's the family?  
Uh, Ann's fine.  
Uh, the baby's coming  
Tuesday after next Tuesday.  
Oh.  
It's a... It's a cesarean.  
Dan, that's amazing.  
Yeah, it is.  
And, uh,  
both girls are...  
They're doing well.  
Good.  
Please, uh,  
give them all my best.  
Yeah.  
Dan.  
Thank you.  
For what?  
For...  
I guess  
for showing me a few things.  
No one ever really  
took the time to  
give me a hard time before.  
Or teach me anything  
that was  
actually worth learning.  
All right.  
Now listen, Carter.  
I want to tell you something.  
You're going to be okay.  
You think so?  
Yeah. I know it.  
You're a good man.  
Don't be a stranger.  
Morty?  
Hey!  
You're back!  
Yeah, back in the saddle.  
And look at you.  
You're-- you're...  
You look like  
a delivery guy.



Oh, do you know  
Dan's daughter Alex?  
Yeah.  
What are you doing here?  
I'm surprising my dad.  
Tennis.  
Alex is  
a fantastic tennis player.  
She was a junior champ, right?  
Really? Oh, you're into...  
You're into tennis, huh?  
Yeah.  
How is everything?  
Good. Really...  
Really good.  
Um, I'm leaving town,  
actually.  
I think  
I'm going to try teaching  
or, um,  
maybe open an Awapuhi store.  
I don't know. Uh...  
How are you doing?  
Good. Very good.  
I've been working on  
some short stories.  
Oh. That's awesome.  
Well, I got a raise.  
Dan got me a raise.  
Which is a good thing, because  
my wife just got laid off.  
Timing's everything in life,  
right?  
Right.  
Well, good seeing you.  
Take care, Carter.  
Yeah. Look, it was really  
great seeing both you guys.  
You, too, Carter. It was...  
It was really good to see you.  
Bye.  
Hi, guys.  
Well?  
Yes?

Wel, I'm delighted to say  
that you have a baby sister.  
Are you happy, Dad?  
Yeah, I'm psyched.  
Hello. Dan! Hey.  
Oh, my God. Congratulations.  
It's amazing.  
Do you have a name yet?  
Oh, no, that's terrific.  
Uh,  
probably because I'm jogging.  
No, I'm outside.  
Yes.  
I'm actually jogging outside.  
/ Please /  
Playa del Rey. Don't laugh.  
/ Remember me /  
I'm thinking about  
getting into...  
/ Happily /  
/ By the rose bush /  
/ Laughing with roses  
on my chin /  
/ The time when /  
/ we counted every black car /  
/ passing your house  
beneath the hill /  
/ and up until /  
/ someone caught us  
in the kitchen /  
/ with knives /  
/ A mountain range /  
/ A piggy bank /  
/ A vision to removed  
to mention /  
/ But, please,  
remember me /  
/ fondly /  
/ I heard from someone  
you're still pretty /  
/ And then /  
/ they went on to say /  
/ that the pearly gates /  
/ are so eloquently repeated /

/ Like words  
I've lost and found /  
/ And don't look down /  
/ And someone  
save temptation /  
/ And, please /  
/ remember me silently /  
/ In the car  
behind the corner /  
/ you hold my hand /  
/ between your knees /  
/ You turn from me /  
/ Said the trapeze,  
it was wonderful /  
/ But never  
meant to last /  
/ The clouds  
have passed /  
/ So we just come up  
with anger /  
/ And then /  
/ The circus moved /  
/ The parking lot /  
/ Hiding out,  
a hint of danger /  
/ So, please, remember me /  
/ fondly /  
/ You're my uphill crawl,  
my dear /  
/ But if I make /  
/ the pearly gates /  
/ Do my best  
to make a drawing of God /  
/ And Lucifer /  
/ A boy and girl /  
/ An angel kissin'  
on a silkscreen of Mars /  
/ The aftermath /  
/ A marching band /  
/ All around the fray  
just trapeze swinging //