

Out to Lunch

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1.0 AM MORNING - HOUSE IN THE SUBURBS

Open to our protagonist, let's call him Cole as it has a nice generic crisp sound to it. Cole rushes out of his bedroom. He is half dressed as he hops through to the kitchen, trying to place a sock on one foot, where his son and daughter are eating cereal. Tristan, Cole's son is playing a video on YouTube from his laptop he is 16. Kristen who is his twin is also 16. It is a documentary about people who eat animals.

COLE

Ok, are you guys good with the lunches, I am so sorry I am late for work!

TRISTAN

Ya, Dad we are good.

COLE

Kristen?

KRISTEN

Ya, dad.

COLE

Good! You still watching that stuff T?

Tristan ignores him as he eats.

Cole takes out a pan from the cupboard, places it on the stove, takes out a carton of eggs and begins to cook them.

Meanwhile, the video is playing on YouTube.

YOUTUBE

Anyone, I mean anyone who eats animals or animal products is a psycho killer, like Jeffrey Dahmer. If you can eat an animal and know it was alive, you can kill anyone!

Cole is stirring his eggs as the YouTube video continues. He looks over at the video as it catches his attention. He starts to watch the video, he slowly mixes his eggs as they simmer in the pan. The man Yells, Killer! Cole jumps and eggs fly out. He looks back in the pan there is a gross mixture of scarred eggs. He is disgusted, and throws them out.

COLE

Ok, guy's I have to go. Give it in.

He hugs the kids as he throws his jacket on and walks, partially stumbling out the door.

COLE

Hey before I forget, do you guys need anything from the grocery store?

KRISTEN

Um, we need more plant-based foods, like the sausages, but it has to be the beyond meat brand ok, Dad?

COLE

Ok, I'll look for some of that stuff, love you guys.

Cole waits for a response, nothing. He starts again.

COLE

Ok, I am leaving! Bubyee!

He waits again nothing

COLE

GUYS, I Am leaving!

Both Tristan and Kristen stop what they are doing and nod.

Cole takes that as a good gesture.

COLE

I 'll take that. Ok don't be late for school you two!

He walks out the door. Then he comes back in frantically.

COLE

Where are my keys, guys...keys?

Tristan pulls them out of his pocket, throws them to Cole.

COLE

Oh, that's right you are taking the test tomorrow. Ok T, you and me after work?

TRISTAN

Ok, Dad.

COLE

Good, I'll make sure you ace it T.

TRISTAN

Ok.

COLE

Good...great...hey we' re getting there. Your mother would be so proud of you two.

He waits for a response.

COLE

Ok, nice chat. Ok, Got to go. Bye guys.

Cole watches his kids with adoration and goes to add to his fatherly speech, pauses and leaves.

2.0 LATE MORNING PARKING LOT

Opens to an old car driving through a parking lot, many spots open but the car continues through to the end where there is an adjacent street. We see the car turn onto the street. A dump truck pulls out of the neighbor's lot blocking the cars path, the passenger honks rapidly, undoes the window and rants to the air. We see the old car quickly accelerate as the dump truck begins to move and then stop briskly. The car almost smashes into the truck, again the horn is sounded on rapid release.

The driver backs up and onto another street further away. He looks at a spot to park, it is a small area between two super cars in a parallel stall. The driver pulls beside the BMW 2 door 989 and puts on his blinker. He throws the blinker on to signal his parallel approach. Beginning to turn, he backs into the space while turning his body to check behind him, squinting, as the sunlight is beaming through the rear window. He continues until, thud, an undisturbed curb is stricken by the rear tire. He hurriedly throws the gear into drive to avoid any further damage. He continues the forward and backwards corrections until he is satisfied with the results. The car winds up cock-eyed and not straight with a gap of a Beaver Stadiums' yard stick away from the curb.

The camera sees Cole get out of the car, locking up as he continues to the building a few blocks away. He is heard cursing as he starts the walk.

3. LATE MORNING OFFICE SALES FLOOR

We follow Cole up a flight of stairs and into a hallway with a few closed doors. He proceeds to a door to his right with a caution sign adhered to the panel. It is like a traffic sign but has the statement "Proceed only if you are not late"

The doors open to a large office full of life. Salespeople at their stations lined up rows upon rows of desks with matching computers and two LCD screens occupying each workstation. The phones are ringing, most of the sales folks are wearing expensive beats headsets and talking aloud to prospective buyers. This is a financial services sales institution let's call it Capital Solutions, mainly because Capital is what this company seeks and it also has a nice generic ring to it. It is a bank for business and investment. Cole continues to his station.

ADAM

Cole! Wow man, I didn't think you were ever coming back after yesterday.

COLE

What? Why wouldn't I?

ADAM

Well you and Mr. Dale, it really got heated, it was like out of a movie bro. Look I even took a video. Check it out you were on one man.

CUT TO A VIDEO OF COLE WALKING OUT OF AN OFFICE FURIOUS, HE PICKS UP HIS MEDIUM TOGO COFFEE AND SPLASHES IT A FEW YARDS AWAY EXPLODING THE COLUMBIAN PERCOLATE BEAN LIQUID WITH A MIXTURE OF SPLENDA AND MILK ONTO THE GLASS OFFICE WALL. HE CONTINUES TO SWEAR AND MURMUR "NO ONE STEALS FROM ME YOU LITTLE,(BLEEP) PIPSQUEAK OF A MAN, YOU DON' BELONG HERE, WERE MEN HERE SO GO TAKE YOUR STUPID LOOK OFF YOUR FACE, (BLEEP) YOU AND YOUR (BLEEP) HAT, YOU (BLEEP) TWAT". HE KICKS THE GARBAGE, THROWS THE DOOR OPEN AND SLAMS IT BEHIND HIM AS HE LEAVES THE BUILDING.

COLE

I was pretty mad, between you and me I was always coming back. I just needed to get my point across.

ADAM

Well I am glad you're back. Most of us thought you were out. No serious we even made a pool. I don' t think anyone took you for next day...dammit.

COLE

Too funny. Well where is that lizards ass anyway. What a snake.

ADAM

He was sent to the island after that. He gone.

COLE

Ah. Well go figure. I have a meeting later with Murphy. Back to work?

THE TWO SHARE A MOMENT OF ACCEPTANCE AND CONTINUE TO WORK.

4.0 LATE MORNING OFFICE I

CUT TO A SHOT OF A MAN IN A BLUE SUIT AND ORNATE TIE WALKING PAST THE ROWS OF WORKSTATIONS. This is our antagonist for the movie. Let's call him Mitchell. He walks up to the workstation of Cole.

MITCHELL

Hey I guess we have a meeting at 11:30 with Murphy. You ready?

COLE

Ya, Let' go.

CUT TO THE TWO WALKING DOWN THE ROWS.

We cut to a shot of them walking into a glass door office. A desk and a couch sit in the office. They sit down. Murphy is talking to an office assistant.

MURPHY

Ok ya this one will work.

ASSISTANT
You sure, this time?

MURPHY
Ya? I am sure, go now make it so
number one.

ASSISTANT
(Rolls her eyes) It better be.

MURPHY
Ah guys have a seat.

COLE
I...I am sitting...already.

MURPHY
Ok. Mitchel, would you?

Murphy nods to the door.

MITCHELL
Yes of course, couldn't be happier to.

MURPHY
So...Cole...you know we like
you here and wish you to be a
contributing employee with Capital
Solutions.

COLE
Ok, yes...aha

MURPHY
Well your numbers, they have to
increase here. What did you produce
last month? Mitchell?

MITCHELL
50, 000?

MURPHY
50, 000?

COLE
Ya it was a tough month for sure, but
I am sure you realize the leads were
tight.

MURPHY

Well 50,000 is not enough Cole. What did you do last month

COLE

I di- 10,000?

MITCHELL

Ya that sounds about right

MURPHY

Ok well 60k in 2 months is not enough.

COLE

Well I understand however about yesterday, I am not sure you are aware but...wait I wrote it down...so I contacted Mr. Adam's on Mar 29. I had been working with Mr. ADAMS everyday to make sure his portfolio was satisfactory for the banks. His credit was an issue so yesterday I contacted Mrs. Adam' to add her to the files. I sent in the numbers and references for her to verify and we were waiting for confirmation from the bank. I then proceeded to put together a presentation for Mr. Chase, another prospective client. I informed Nicole after that I had to step out for my Audition at 130 and I'd be back in a couple hours to finalize Mr. Adams' deal. While I was gone Mr. Dale had given my deal to Mr. Tran, even after I had emailed him about this important appointment and also...Mitchell last week.

MURPHY

Okay...

COLE

Well, I don't know about you but when you work hard everyday for a week and we are contracted to do so, we don't expect a salary -strictly commission, as a business owner yourself, what is the word for when another company or person takes something away from you without your knowledge or consent?

MURPHY

Aha...

MITCHELL

Well-

COLE

-Its stealing, Mitch. No other words can describe it. So now you can understand why I did what I did.

MURPHY

Ok I am not saying what Mr. Dale did was right or wrong. I am just saying we need you to do better.

COLE

I totally understand that. I am a passionate guy and I can get heated so I just want to be clear when I say that If I am given the tools to succeed, I will.

MURPHY

Ok well, first I am giving you the two deals back. I ll-

COLE

- Wait, what 2 deals?

MURPHY

I believe Mr. Dale had given two deals to Mr. Tran.

MITCHELL

I wasn't here yesterday don't look to me, I have no clue.

COLE

I only know about one.

MURPHY

Well it might be, I don' t know

COLE

It better not be, right!

MURPHY

No need to get upset. Mr. Tran followed up so I will pay him as he touched these, out of my own pocket, because I am a nice guy.

COLE

What? You are going to pay him? I can pay it if that' s how this is.

MURPHY

No that' s on me.

MITCHELL

Ya, what he is trying to say is that you are never here. Your always off doing something with whatever. Lunch, or your acting stuff. Christ you were in the bathroom for God knows how long.

Cut to Cole in the bathroom with a ring light setup it is at an angle and resting on the door. He is sitting in a stall on top of the toilet. The video conference pops up on his phone.

CASTING

Hi, Cole.

COLE

Hi there.

CASTING

Before we begin, are there any questions?

COLE

Nothing I can think of...

CASTING

Ok, whenever you are ready.

Just as Cole closes his eyes and begins there is a voice from the stall beside him.

DEVON

Oh, man I am sorry I just cant hold it!

A blurting sounds comes out from the stall, Devon has evacuated his morning breakfast into the toilet next to Cole. a loud farting noise followed by.

DEVON

Oh, man. that' s nasty.

CASTING

Cole, stop. Are you in a bathroom?

DEVON

I really need to stop eating Mc. D's in the morning.

COLE

Um...ya.

CASTING

Thanks Cole.

The video conference stops.

DEVON

Oh, dude. I am sorry man but I couldn't help it man. I think I know what childbirth is like, I felt like contractions man. Seriously dude, hey at last I had freedom of choice, could you imagine a world where you couldn't crap?

COLE

No that would most definite result in mass death.

DEVON

But hey man if you need me to help you. You know you should write about this that would be funny man, Ill play the dude taking a crap!

COLE

Thanks....

Cut back to Cole in Murphy' s office.

COLE

10 minutes! I was in there for a live callback for only 10 minutes. You supported me on this.

MITCHELL

Your always going for lunches, always, we can never find you.

COLE

What? I leave to the store, which is within walking distance, for maybe 15 minutes and come right back. You know if anything it's actually the managers who sit around doing nothing, I didn't want to say anything but ask anyone here they are frustrated because there is no support!

MITCHELL

Well I don' know about that but.

MURPHY

Ok ok enough. Cole I just need you to produce and I'll pay Mr. Tran. Mitch get Mr. Tran.

Mitchell leaves and grabs an Asian man wearing glasses.

MITCHELL

Ok

MURPHY

Mr. Tran. How long did you work on Adam's file.

MR. TRAN.

Oh, I think I-

MURPHY

- Would you say a couple hours?

MR. TRAN.

Well I called Mr. Adam' s twice leaving a message.

MURPHY

Ok so two hours. I'll pay you for your time. What' s two hours of your

time...let' say 250 dollars is that fair?

MR. TRAN.
Ya that's good

MURPHY
Ok, you can go now.

MITCHELL
That' s a fair deal.

MURPHY
Ok, Cole... can I have you committed to produce for us?

COLE
It's the leads. It' hard to produce when there is nothing to work on, I' m digging through the trenches here.

MURPHY
I need to know are you a 200000k guy. Mitchell is Cole with his experience, talent and if we get him 5k of leads how many hours a day, a 200000k guy?

MITCHELL
Well-

COLE
- I'm here everyday 10 till 6, everyday. I was even here Saturday, I never miss a Saturday. I' sorry that its not 12 hours like you expect but that' s what I am committed to.

MURPHY
So that' s 8 hours times 6 that's 48 hours a week as a minimum. Mitchell is he here 48 hours a week?

MITCHELL
Well he was here Saturday with me all day I can contest to that.

COLE
I am here for that yes. The leads though, If I get more leads I'll

produce without a doubt. Like last month I had 6k I paid that back. I only have 1000 this month so there' s room and those are the 50 dollar leads not the 200 dollar ones the a plus leads.

MURPHY

Well the issue is if we go ahead and grab you let's say 5k of leads and you are not here we' re out that, money.

MITCHELL

Ya and that comes out of my pocket.

COLE

All I know is everyone gets at least 5k of leads and I haven' t, even though I have asked numerous times.

They all rise out of their seats.

MURPHY

Ok, Mitchel let' s get him 25-50 leads and get this month going. Can you promise me 200k?

COLE

I'll do even better then that 250k...

MURPHY

Okay Cole get back to work, don' t forget we have a big meeting with a potential new Client tomorrow. Full staff on this.

COLE

You got it, Chief...(He looks to Mitchell) Mitchell.

MITCHELL

Just go.

Cole leaves through the door.

MURPHY

Do, you think he will keep his mouth shut about this.

MITCHELL

He's a stubborn one but he doesn't know anything about it, trust me on this.

MURPHY

He better not or its your head, Mitchell. Make sure to keep an eye on him, we wouldn't want the public to know how we operate.

That's all.

5.0 AFTERNOON PM OFFICE

Cole is on the phone with a client. Tony comes in from the main door, grabs a chair.

TONY

Ho-kay! I am back! What are we gonna do today? Where is that little cockroach of a man. Ah there he is...

Tony pulls up a chair to COLE.

COLE

YES MR. BLAIR YOU ARE ALL SET UP NOW WE CAN DEPOSIT THE MONEY AT YOUR REQUEST. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I CAN HELP YOU WITH? OK TAKE CARE, HAVE A GREAT DAY!

TONY

What the hell was that? Have a nice day? Really?

COLE

Um, ya?

TONY

What are we selling cookies here? Where did you learn that, Girl Scouts of America?

COLE

You just keep pretending your Al and I'll keep saying have a nice day.

TONY
People love it man. I always offer
them Tony, or Al, always.

COLE
Which do they prefer?

TONY
Well Al of course, Ho-kay!...

COLE
Well you do you...

TONY
Ya, man. Hey you have lunch yet?

COLE

He picks up his store wrapper.

TONY
Oh, man that's sad a store purchased
sandwich.

COLE
It's tight lately, you know how much
fuel is?.

TONY
Well, I got you man. Let's go...that
hot Liz is working, you know what I am
saying right.

COLE
um, I got a lot of work to do, we're
behind in numbers. Wait you just got
here like, now?

TONY
Ya so what?

COLEI
I just had a meeting with Murphy.
(whispering) They are struggling I
think, keep it tight ho-kay?

TONY
Ho-Kay, Ill see you later! Anybody
needs me I'll be RIGHT, over there!

CUT TO EXPRESSION ON COLES FACE

6.0 INTERIOR GROCERY STORE LATE PM

Cole is in the grocery store looking for the plant based section. He finds something he thinks is what Kristen Wanted. A passerby sees his confusion.

ALICE

Those are good, but these are the best!

She hands Cole another package of sausages.

COLE

Who knew it would be so hard to find a sausage. I'm supposed to find the beyond ones? Where they are is beyond me.

ALICE

Oh those have their own section over by the regular meat.

COLE

Wow, they really are being presumptuous. You are very smart with this, stuff. You almost have to have a degree in anthropology, to find what you need in these places.

ALICE

It seems to come naturally to me, sausages everywhere, most days I' m not even looking for sausage more like, Tacos or perogies. Do you like Tacos?

COLE

I Do! It' s for the kids actually, they are all for the plant based.

ALICE

Oh that' s nice of you to do, how old?

COLE

Oh, they' re twins actually, 16 they are basically out the house already though, adults.

ALICE
That' s funny, my name is Alice.

COLE
Cole. Well since their, mom passed we
just. Well you know home duties, can
be challenge...

He chokes up.

COLE
Challenging.

I must say I am a little out to lunch
here.

Cole looks around and has an idea.

COLE
Hey, Alice would you accompany me to
find some more of these for the kids,
you seem really knowledgeable, I am in
the dark here, really.

ALICE
Of course, I' m sorry about-

COLE
- Oh, ya you know, cancer is a bitch.

ALICE
Well, where should we begin? Here come
with me.

They continue to shop together.

After the shopping Cole and Alice leave the grocery store.

Cole looks for his BMW.

COLE
Well, that's odd.

ALICE
What's odd?

COLE
I could have sworn, I parked near that
handicap spot.

Cut to a Cole parking in the handicapped spot.

ALICE
Are you sure?

COLE
I think so. They wouldn't tow it would they?

ALICE
Maybe you parked in the wrong spot?

COLE
Alice, I really enjoy your company, would you be so inclined to accompany me once again to the impound?

ALICE
I would love to, but you're paying.

COLE
For this and, dinner?

ALICE
LET'S do it.

They both ride off in Alice's convertible.

5.0 EARLY EVENING - IMPOUND LOT

Cut to Alice and Cole waiting in the Impound lot as Cole's car is driven up. The car is missing rubber on one front tire and another off the rear. The rim is dented.

Cut to Cole asking the lot attendant as he gets out of the car.

COLE
What is this? This isn't my car, it missing the rubber! And the wheel is dented! How can this even be driven? I, I can't believe this where, who towed -

ALICE
- It's okay, I do have a a transport here.

Alice looks to Cole.

COLE

This is unacceptable. Oh my god, I just remembered, I have to take T for a drive, he's going for his road test tomorrow. How am I going to -

ALICE

It's Okay, Cole. (she ponders a moment)

We can take my car!

COLE

You would do that?

ALICE

It' s not a problem, take me for dinner another day?

COLE

Deal.

Cole looks to the lot attendant.

COLE

This needs to be fixed. I'll be back tomorrow, figure it out.

COLE

Thank you Alice, you are a life saver.

Cole hands the keys back to the lot attendant. They leave in Alice' s car.

6.0 EVENING - COLES HOME

Cole and Alice pull up to the family home. they Enter the house.

COLE

Hey guys, I' m home! I have a friend I would like you two to meet.

Kristen comes running from the basement on her phone.

KRISTEN

No way, there is no way Julia, he's really not that good looking, I know he wants to ask me out, why wouldn't he come on.

COLE

Real-world problems. (He looks at Alice)

COLE

Kris...Kris!

KRISTEN

I am on the phone dad.

COLE

This is Alice, she saved me today.

KRISTEN

Nice to meet you.

There is just no way, Julia. I am not going if he's there. Let's do something else. The concert is in town, lets go there! Plus I hear Mikey will be there. He likes you, you know.

Hey did you get the new phone? I hear it can predict your text messages and write them before you even type.

Oh may god, I want one so bad.

COLE

Okay, well that's scary as all hell.

ALICE

Interesting. I heard about this, Ai stuff. It' s the new thing.

COLE

Oh, you're one of these?

ALICE

One of what?

COLE

You know, techy.

ALICE

Well I work in data analysis, so it's kind of my job.

COLE

Excellent, we have that in common, I know all sorts of things about the bots. I once had a three week relationship with one. You know it's bad when a bot ghosts you.

ALICE

Well, I don't think I am a bot, I really don't use this stuff. It's too creepy if you only knew how it all operates. Nothing is private, nothing is safe.

COLE

Well, I do work at a bank, but I am just a low level employee really.

Tristan walks through to the living area.

COLE

Okay here is number two, T this is Alice. She is going to help with the driving.

TRISTAN

Tristan, Dad. Where's the car?

COLE

It needs some help, just like you so are you ready to learn the ways of the road! The freedom to go anywhere, anytime along the misty mountain passes and the-

TRISTAN

Okay, Dad. Whatever you say.

COLE

Alice, care to join us?

ALICE

Well, I better, It is my car after all.

They leave the house and get into the car, Alice sits in the back as Cole instructs Tristan.

7. 0 EVENING ALICES CAR

Cut to a shot inside the car.

COLE

Okay, T. This is a 2009 top of the line Toyota Camry, fine car.

ALICE

Its actually a 2018 Lexus.

COLE

Oh, ya I knew that. Okay T. This has all your new gadgets here, the thingamajig here is the ignition just push that button there.

Tristan pushes the button. Nothing.

COLE

Did you push it?

TRISTAN

Ya Dad, its not working.

COLE

Try it again.

Tristen pushes the button again, but nothing.

ALICE

You have to...

COLE

Here let me try.

Again nothing.

COLE

Did it work? here maybe its this button.

The hazard lights turn on. Then Cole reaches over on the window, the car locks he picks up the key fob and presses another button. The Horn starts sounding loudly.

TRISTAN

Dad, what are you doing?

COLE

This must be a special edition model.

ALICE

To press on the brakes!

COLE

There we go, we know what we are
doing.

Tristan presses the brakes and the gas, the car turns on and suddenly rips forward and into the garage, destroying it.

COLE

I think you got it.

ALICE

I have roadside?

A man walking by the family house dressed in black turns and takes a photo of the wreckage. He continues along the sidewalk, gets into a black Escalade and drives off.

END

