OUT OF ORDER

by

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INT. CINEMA FOYER – NIGHT

EDDY, mid 40's, an unfashionable, overweight loser, is stood at the concessions counter in a busy multiplex movie theatre.

He strolls away having purchased a couple of mustard smothered hot dogs, and a super-sized popcorn and drink.

INT. CORRIDOR – NIGHT

Eddy waddles along, greedily devouring his hot dogs.

He opens the door to one of the multiplex's screening rooms and steps inside.

INT. SCREENING ROOM – NIGHT

A dozen or so people are sat in the dark auditorium, watching the movie that's being screened.

Eddy's sat alone in the front row, slouched back, looking tired and bored.

He lethargically scoops up a handful of popcorn and stuffs it in his gob. He grabs his drink from the chairs cup holder, takes a long slurp, and then munches up the soggy popcorn.

Eddy subtly lets out a long grumbling belch under his breath.

His eyes grow heavy, and gradually flicker shut. His head droops and he begins to snore.

Eddy's hand suddenly jerks towards his chest, knocking his drink onto his lap.

He abruptly wakes and springs to his feet, spilling his popcorn all over the floor.

EDDY
God damn it!

Eddy glares at his soaking wet crotch.

He suddenly realizes the movie has ended and everyone else has gone.
Eddy heads out of the auditorium, rubbing his wet trousers with his sleeve.

INT. CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Eddy briskly makes his way along the empty corridor, subtly wiping his crotch.

He briefly pauses just before entering the customer toilets, his attention caught by a flickering emergency exit sign at the far end of the corridor.

INT. TOILETS - NIGHT

Eddy steps up to a hand dryer and positions his wet trousers beneath. He taps the button several times but nothing happens.

He tries to use a different dryer but that one doesn't work either.

Eddy suddenly hears the sound of gurgling water pipes emanating from a cubicle which has a hand written 'Out Of Order' sign taped to its locked door.

The pipes clang and vibrate, rattling the cubical.

The sign comes unstuck and drops to the floor.

The pipes abruptly stop and fall silent

Shitty sewer sludge suddenly floods out from under the cubical door, rapidly expanding toward Eddy.

EDDY
Jesus Christ!

Eddy gags from the putrid stench. He scurries back against the wall, covering his nose with his sleeve.

He grimaces as the shallow sludge washes up against his shoes.

Eddy freezes, shocked by something he sees at his feet.

He reaches down and picks up the soggy 'Out Of Order' sign. He glares at the back of it, clearly distressed by what he sees on the other side.
The pipes start up again.

Both hand dryers simultaneously roar to life, fiercely blasting hot air.

A surge of power flares up the ceiling lights, blowing out the majority of the bulbs. Only a few faint flickering lights remain.

Eddy flees. He clambers over to the exit, slipping and sliding through the sludge, getting himself covered in shitty slime.

He reaches the door and tugs the handle, but it won't open.

The cubicle violently judders.

The hand dryers ferocity intensifies, blaring out the sound of tormented souls screaming in excruciating agony.

Eddy's brow drips with sweat. He frantically pounds on the door and yanks the handle.

EDDY
Somebody help me!

The pipes and dryers abruptly stop at the same time. Everything is perfectly silent and still.

The cubicle lock is unlatched from the inside, and the door slowly squeaks open.

Something is stood in the cubical, hidden in the shadows.

Eddy freezes with fear.

A lanky hunched figure, dressed in surgeons attire, steps out from the darkness.

The SURGEONS scrubs and rubber gloves are caked in sludge. Most of his face is concealed by a filthy medical mask and cap. Only his crazed blood shot eyes can be seen, glaring straight at Eddy.

The surgeon reaches into his pocket and pulls out a pair of rusty surgical shears.

Eddy desperately tries to pry the door open.
The surgeon charges toward him. Eddy cowers in the corner, still clutching the 'Out Of Order' sign.

    EDDY
    Please, no! I'm sorry.

The surgeon reaches for him. Eddy clenches his eyes.

    EDDY (cont'd)
    Oh God, I'm sorry! Please forgive me.

INT. SCREENING ROOM – NIGHT

Eddy's eyes spring open and he takes a deep gasp of air.

He's laid out on his back, right in front of the chair he was sat in earlier.

Eddy stares up at the bright ceiling lights. His clothes are clean and dry, but his shirt is unbuttoned.

He attempts to sit up.

A FEMALE PARAMEDIC knelt beside him, places her hand on his shoulder.

    FEMALE PARAMEDIC
    Sir, please, you need to try and remain calm.

A MALE PARAMEDIC is crouched the other side of him, holding defibrillator paddles.

    FEMALE PARAMEDIC (cont'd)
    You've just suffered a major cardiac arrest.

She helps to ease Eddy back down.

    EDDY
    What? What's happening?

    FEMALE PARAMEDIC
    Don't worry.

The male paramedic straps a oxygen mask over Eddy's mouth and nose.
FEMALE PARAMEDIC (cont'd)
We're going to get you out of here.

INT. CORRIDOR - NIGHT

The screening room door swings open.

The paramedics wheel Eddy out on a gurney and hurry toward the open emergency exit door at the far end of the corridor.

An ambulance is parked right outside, its flashing emergency lights and dazzling white head lamps are shining directly through the open doorway.

The exit sign over the door flickers. The paramedics stop the gurney and stare up at it.

The exit signs light goes out and the door slams shut.

The hand written 'Out Of Order' sign is taped to the back of the door.

Eddy anxiously sits up.

The female paramedic peels the sign off and takes a look at the back of it.

FEMALE PARAMEDIC
You pleaded for forgiveness.  
For a chance of absolution.

She leans in to Eddy, tossing the sign onto his lap.

FEMALE PARAMEDIC (cont'd)
But some sins are unforgivable.

She nods to the male paramedic.

He shoves Eddy back down onto the gurney and rips the oxygen mask off his face.

FEMALE PARAMEDIC (cont'd)
But don't worry. There's a special place reserved for pieces of shit like you.

The male paramedic grabs hold of the gurney, takes a run up and mightily thrusts it away.
Eddy holds on tight as he hurtles along the corridor.

The gurney comes to a gradual halt right beside the customer toilets.

Eddy stares at the door, frozen with fear.

The door's suddenly torn open from the inside, buckling off its hinges. The screaming roar of the hand dryers blasts out.

The surgeon's stood in the doorway, making snipping motions with the rusty shears.

Eddy attempts to flee but the surgeon snatches hold of his arm and pulls him off the gurney.

The surgeon pounces on top of him and aggressively yanks Eddy's trousers and pants down around his ankles.

Eddy puts up a fight but the surgeon flips him over and seizes hold of his legs.

Eddy desperately claws at the floor as the surgeon drags him into the toilets, and out of sight.

EDDY (O.S)
No! No! Please don't!

Eddy squeals a piercing shrill of absolute agony, and then everything falls completely silent,

The sound of a gurgling toilet flush breaks the silence.

The 'Out Of Order' sign rests precariously on the edge of the gurney. It falls off, landing upside down on the floor.

The sign was written on the back of a Missing Person poster. The word 'Sinner' is hand written across the photograph of a missing young boy.

INT. SCREENING ROOM - NIGHT

'The End' appears upon the cinema screen.

The credits roll and the lights are turned up.

A dozen or so people are sat in the auditorium.
They all casually leave their seats and head out of the screening room.

One person remains sat alone in the front row.

It's Eddy, slumped back in his chair, clutching his chest.

His drink is still in the cup holder, and his popcorn on his lap.

Eddy stares blankly toward the ceiling lights, with an expression of excruciating agony frozen on his face.

THE END