

THE TAKEDOWN

Written by

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INT. THE POD - DAY

SERIES OF SHOTS

--MICKEY SHOUTS SALLY, Pierre AND PIERRE LUNCH

--SALLY, Pierre AND EDNA SURPRISE MICKEY WITH BIRTHDAY CAKE

--MICKEY AND SALLY, Pierre AND EDNA CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

INSERT: BONUS CHEQUE \$1000.00 and Christmas Hamper

--MICKEY AND SALLY, Pierre AND EDNA FINISH WORK EARLY

INSERT: DIGITAL CLOCK 2PM

--END SHOTS

INT. THE POD - DAY

SALLY BARBERA 30s unlocks the office with some surprise that it appears empty. She searches the office.

SALLY

Mickey?

Sally checks the answer machine.

EDNA late 50s enters the office.

EDNA

Morning! Morning Mickey.

SALLY

He's not here.

EDNA

What? That's weird. Maybe he's in the bathroom?

Sally rushes to the bathroom door. She knocks rhythmically against the door and rattles the door knob, it swings open wide. Sally stumbles in, it's empty.

SALLY

Edna!

Edna laughs with a shrug.

EDNA

Maybe he's stuck in traffic.

SALLY

Mickey never gets stuck in traffic.

Sally and Edna settle at their desks concerned.

Pierre MARTIN 20s rushes up to the office. He stops just outside the door and doubles over to take in some strong breaths.

Sally jumps up from her seat to see to Pierre.

SALLY
What's wrong?

Pierre unable to speak, holds up his hand for Sally to wait while he catches his breath.

PIERRE
My God! I need to go to the gym more.

EDNA
What's wrong with you?

PIERRE
Glenda is on her way!

They all look at each other aghast.

SALLY
What's happened?

PIERRE
Mickey's been in an accident.

They all display various degrees of shock.

EDNA
How badly is he hurt?

Pierre takes his backpack off.

PIERRE
Glenda says he's strained his back while doing a trapeze lesson.

EDNA
Trapeze!? Is he crazy?

Sally laughs with a certain amount of relief.

PIERRE
She's serious, Sal.

SALLY
He's okay, that's the main thing.

PIERRE
Glenda is keeping him home for a few weeks. Insists he needs a break from the office.

Edna snorts.

EDNA
 God love her. She's so protective
 of our Mickey.

SALLY
 We can manage. Easily.

Pierre gives a cheeky salute.

INSERT: CLOCK 8.45AM

EDNA
 Do you think she'll make it here
 before ten.

Sally looks keenly at the clock.

EXT. THE POD - PARKING LOT - DAY

Glenda (80s) tries to maneuver her large car into a parking space. She reverses out, turns the wheel of the car and reverses back. She continuously reverses back and forth until her car eventually backs into the spot.

Satisfied she gets out and toddles toward the entrance to The Pod.

INT. THE POD - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

INSERT: CLOCK 9.06AM

Glenda enters the office.

GLEENDA
 Pierre would have given the bad news. Our Mickey has hurt his back, poor darling.

SALLY
 Oh Glenda, is he okay, in any pain?

GLEENDA
 He's being a right old pain in the arse.

Sally's eyes widen. Pierre bursts into laughter. Edna ducks her head down behind her computer with a smirk.

SALLY
 He's probably frustrated being stuck in bed.

GLEENDA
 Well he should have thought twice before flinging his chubby behind off the platform.

EDNA

Which hospital is he in, Glenda?

GLEENDA

No, no, he's not been to hospital.
He's just got some muscle tension.

PIERRE

A good sign.

Glenda snorts. The tough nut exterior of Glenda cracks a little. Tears form in her aged eyes. Edna, Sally and Pierre instantly surround her for support. Pierre wraps his long arms around her.

PIERRE

He's okay, he's going to be fine.

SALLY

Don't you worry Glenda. Mickey is a strong man. He'll be fine.

INT. MICKEY'S OLD BEDROOM - NIGHT

Mickey lays stock still in his bed. He's wearing checkered pyjamas with his legs propped on pillows.

Sports Trophy's and Certificates of Achievements line a shelf close to the bed.

Sally, Edna and Pierre enter the room tentatively.

MICKEY

Help me get out of here.

SALLY

Mickey.

PIERRE

I can't carry you.

Pierre turns to Edna who gives her a dirty look.

EDNA

And you think I can?

Pierre pulls a grumpy Edna into her arms for an affectionate hug.

SALLY

Are you okay?

MICKEY

You could say, everywhere hurts.
Everywhere, Sal. Everywhere.

SALLY

Well don't worry bout the Pod,
we've got it covered.

Mickey taps his cheek. Sally obliges with a a quick peck.

MICKEY

My peas in a pod. You're the wind
beneath my wings, the fire in my
hearth, the--

SALLY

MICKEY!!

They all laugh. Mickey laughs in an odd manner, his huffs of laughter barely move his body.

PIERRE

Poor man, can't even laugh like us
normal people.

SALLY

What do you want us to bring for
you?

MICKEY

Some of your Indian cooked meals
would be nice, Sal.

PIERRE

Oh poor Mickey must have hit his
head too. He thinks you're Indian.

MICKEY

I know she's not Indian! I just
like her Chicken Korma.

EDNA

You know she cooks that from a
Pataks jar.

Sally turns on Edna, a look of warning.

SALLY

Okay, we've got to go. We'll call
you tomorrow, see how you're doing.

Sally ushers Edna and Pierre out of the room.

MICKEY (O.S.)

No worries Sal. A temporary boss
will be there at nine to help out.

EXT. THE POD - DAY

BOBBIE Doowachin in a high powered suit struts down the street, fixes his tie, puffs up his chest his hand tightens around a briefcase. He brushes his moustache, his lip flicks up.

He walks up to the Pod and tries to open the door but it's locked. He rattles it roughly. Peers into the office.

INT. THE POD - CONTINUOUS

Sally stares Bobbie as he attempts to open the door wide.

She looks at the clock.

INSERT: CLOCK 7.45AM

SALLY

We're closed, please come back at
9am, please.

BOBBIE

I'm your boss!

Sally quirks a brow, lips pursed. She opens the door.

SALLY

Pardon me?

BOBBIE

Bobbie Doowachin. The new manager.
Where is my office?

Sally points to Mickey's desk.

BOBBIE

That's not an office.

SALLY

We all sit here. We work together.

BOBBIE

Well that's not appropriate, is it?
Managers working next to staff.

Sally fumes.

INT. THE POD - LATER

Sally, Pierre, Edna and Bobbie work silently. Bobbie checks his watch and gets up for some coffee. He stretches with mug in hand.

BOBBIE

Well, it's time for some biscuits.
I guess Edna and Pierre can have a
snack but you should really cut
back Sal.

Pierre and Edna glance at each other horrified. Sally fumes and puts her finger to her lips in warning when Pierre stands up to say something.

Pierre drops back into his seat and mumbles.

INT. THE POD - DAY

Sally arrives to work late. Bobbie waits at the door, opens it up wide.

BOBBIE

What time do you call this?

SALLY

(mumbles)

Pain in the arse time.

BOBBIE

Excuse me?

Sally takes her seat, smiles sweetly at Bobbie.

SALLY

I didn't say anything.

BOBBIE

Punctuality is a virtue.

EDNA

(whispers under her
breath)

So is silence.

BOBBIE

It's difficult to come back into
your job competently after having a
child.

SALLY

I'm pretty sure my brains are the
same as they were before I had my
child Bobbie. Intelligent.
What about you?

BOBBIE

I have a high I.Q.

PIERRE

Is this for real?

Bobbie leans down over Sally's desk.

BOBBIE

(In loud hushed tones)
I really can't understand that
young man, you'll have to be the
translator.

PIERRE

Comprenez ceci, vous branleur
prétentieux.

Pierre gives Bobbie's back the finger.

EXT. THE POD - DAY

Sally, Pierre and Edna huddle together outside the office.

SALLY

Okay we have exactly 7 minutes
before he comes out of the toilet.
He needs to go.

EDNA

What does he do in there?

SALLY

Let's not go there.

PIERRE

Tell Mickey to give him the flick.
We'll manage the workload.

SALLY

Let's deal with this on our own.
Let Mickey recover, I don't want
him to worry.

PIERRE

A take down is the only way.

EDNA

A take down?

PIERRE

Make his life so unbearable, he
won't want to come back.

SALLY

A take down it is. Bring your ideas
to the table.

INT. THE POD - DAY

Bobbie eats his sandwich. He struggles to digest the food. Fans his mouth. Drinks lots of water. He packs away his lunch.

BOBBIE
My wife's mixed something into my
lunch.

Bobbie stands in front of Edna's desk. Edna concentrates while she collates some documents.

He leans down right in her face.

BOBBIE
Who takes care of the Building
Maintenance?

Edna gasps, leans away. Bobbie sweats profusely. He pulls out a handkerchief and wipes his brows.

EDNA
I do. Is there a problem?

BOBBIE
The air conditioning in here is far
too stuffy for my liking. Call a
technician out to fix it. If it
can't be fixed, I'll need a
revolving fan at my desk.

PIERRE
Too much hot air in here or maybe
he's menopausal.

Bobbie turns to Pierre.

BOBBIE
Pepe is feeling hot as well.

Bobbie heads to the bathroom.

Edna gives Pierre a thumbs up. Sally begins a Mexican Wave which Pierre and Edna join in.

Bobbie comes out of the bathroom. He wipes his hands thoroughly on a towel and approaches Edna's desk.

BOBBIE
The toilet seat has been tampered
with in the mens room!

EDNA
I'll have a plumber come in and
take a look.

BOBBIE
This is ridiculous! I'd like a
meeting with you all. In my office.

PIERRE
Is he serious?

Sally, Pierre and Edna come to stand in front of Bobbie's desk.

BOBBIE
There are lots of maintenance
issues in this building. A few
attitudes need adjusting.

SALLY
I think you should stop right there
Mr. Doowachin.

BOBBIE
There is no respect for my
authority. And the office is in a
shambles of no work being
progressively done.

SALLY
The team here are a bright, sharp
and hard working team Mr. Doowachin
you are completely out of line.

BOBBIE
I've had enough of this! You're all
trying to get me and pull me down.

He points in their faces, jumps up and erratically paces.

SALLY
Thank you for your service, sir but
it's time to go for you.

BOBBIE
I'm the Boss here!

SALLY
Don't be ridiculous. You've come
into this office to assist but
you've been nothing but painful. We
can survive without you.

Sally points at the door. Bobbie huffs and puffs, flustered, he brushes his moustache and picks up his bag and leaves.

Pierre jumps in the air with a pump fist. Edna does a little dance on the spot. Sally watches Bobbie leave a little mystified.

SALLY
Was that a take down?

EDNA

I didn't do anything, I thought we
were going to discuss tomorrow.

PIERRE

Nothing from my corner.

SALLY

And it didn't come from me.

They all laugh hysterically.

PIERRE

The Pod broke the Doowachin.

FADE TO BLACK.