

CORPORATE TOWER RESCUE

by: Japheth Gordon

INT. EXECUTIVE OFFICE - DESK

DEVIN (16) sits at the reception desk in front of large steel office doors. The desk is cluttered with paperwork.

JO (16) and RIPLEY (17), inconspicuously approach where Devin's sitting.

JO
(professional tone)
Hi. We're here to deliver this package.

Devin doesn't look up from the desk, too busy with documents.

DEVIN
Deliveries go through receiving, down on M level.

RIPLEY
This delivery is special. Kind of a surprise.

Devin looks up, surprised to see the smiling faces of Ripley and Jo!

DEVIN
What are you two doing here?

JO
This is a straight-up jailbreak.

RIPLEY
Let's go.

DEVIN
I'm not in jail. I'm at work.

JO
I honestly can't tell the difference.

DEVIN
Listen, it's great to see you, but you guys can't be in here.

RIPLEY
Sorry, maybe we weren't clear; we are here to set *you* free. I'm gonna pull the evac alarm, you two head for the stairs then we --

DEVIN
-- I'm not going with you.

RIPLEY
What?!

JO
Are there cameras watching us? Is
that why you're being so weird?

DEVIN
I told you. I work here now.

Ripley gets in Devin's face.

RIPLEY
Look at me. I said look at me.

A moment of intense eye-contact. Ripley is reading Devin. Jo
is uncomfortable.

JO
Whatever Lannister has on you, it
can't be so bad that you're too
scared to run when you have the
chance.

DEVIN
I *had* the chance.
(beat)
My first week here... Lannister
tore up my case and said I could
leave whenever I wanted.

JO
And you stayed?

RIPLEY
(cold realization)
You stayed.

DEVIN
There are things that you don't
know -- Things I didn't know.

RIPLEY
That asshole is the reason our
parents lost everything. He's the
reason my dad --

Ripley is too emotional.

JO

(to Devin)

Okay, I know I'm not very smart when it comes to money or business, but you're gonna have to explain how working here makes sense.

DEVIN

Our parents took some bad risks with money --
(off their looks)
I've seen the documents. They were greedy. They wanted too much.

JO

And Lannister?

DEVIN

He tried to help them.

RIPLEY

Yeah right.

DEVIN

See for yourself.

Devin slides some spreadsheets over. Ripley skeptically examines them.

RIPLEY

These show with-holdings from the last five years.

JO

But that makes no sense. We just moved here.

(realizes)

Oh no...

DEVIN

I'm sorry.

RIPLEY

We shouldn't be here.

(to Jo)

Let's go.