

SILICON VALLEY

"Dosed"

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. HACKER HOUSE - DAY

Richard, Erlich, Dinesh, Gilfoyle, Jared and Big Head are huddled around a computer screen. They all look stunned.

They're staring at a Blog that Erlich bought.

The headline reads: Shell Company "Kick Ass" Productions Makes a Purchase.

DINESH

But who in the hell would do that.

JARED

Laurie doesn't have authority anymore. She's off the board. We own the company now...the only person who could have -

The group turns and stares at Erlich.

ERLICH

She caught me at the Rosewood in a...compromising position with an older woman. In order to save the PR of Pied Piper I had to give her a nibble.

GILFOYLE

What. The fuck.

ERLICH

Nothing happens to the cap table for all of you. It's all coming out of my stake. We needed more cash and now we have it.

RICHARD

It won't much matter if we can't improve our retention. Our customers are leaving terrible reviews. The last one I read said "Get fucked ass licker." He was a 3 out of 5 star.

The door bursts open and an effeminate man wearing a KIMONO walks through. He doesn't say a word.

All of a sudden a familiar face shows up at the door.

RUSSELL
I'm back bitches!

Russel is riding a blue hoverboard. He tries several times to get through the door, but he cannot get over the door edge.

In frustration he snaps at the kimono wearing simp.

The Kimono Man lays down a piece of cardboard so that Russell can get in.

Russell rolls through the door triumphantly.

The group looks stunned.

ERLICH
Guys. He made me an offer I couldn't refuse. It's a partnership that will be forged upon trust and mutual respect. Right Russell?

RUSSELL
Who the fuck are you again?

ERLICH
We literally just talked on the phone. You said "nice doing business with you"? You just bought -

RUSSELL
Yea, I've been microdosing, I don't know what the fuck I'm doing half the time.

Russell wheels around to Richard.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)
Richard. You need growth. Engagement. Profit! We can't afford this wishy-washy bullshit in this down market. Who are you patterning yourselves after?

RICHARD
What?

RUSSELL
Companies. Which companies are you trying to emulate?

RICHARD

Well I really admire the scalable systems that Netflix and Amazon have put together. The machine learning algorithms they're using are really -

RUSSELL

Yea I want you to forget all that shit. Now Free to Play games. That's where you should take a page from.

GILFOYLE

Ugh, I hate Free to Play games. It's like they're dealing out cocaine. And not the pure kind either. Just shitty, rustbelt cocaine. They create no value. Peddling dopamine pellets for the less evolved among us.

Russell sniffs loudly.

RUSSELL

Hey bug eyes! Those dopamine bumps built this place. Have some respect for your forebears.

DINESH

Didn't Free to Play have it's time in the sun? I thought the fad had passed.

Jared makes some keystrokes.

JARED

But guys. Check this out.

The guys crowd around Jared's screen.

JARED (CONT'D)

Look at some of the top companies in the games vertical here. Customer reviews are off the charts. They also have high NPS scores.

RICHARD

NPS Scores?

DINESH

Jesus Richard. You're supposed to know this stuff.

JARED

Rating system. Takes your positive review scores and subtracts your negative ones.

RICHARD

How are they getting such good reviews? Everyone must be high out of their mind.

RUSSELL

Yea Richard. Well Supercell and Niantic are high on money! Pokemon Go is printing cash. I just bought me a piece. I'm not trying to get kicked out of the three comma club again.

Russell grabs Richard's shoulder and starts to squeeze.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

You know that's a sensitive subject for me. Now tell me, you'll do this Richard.

RICHARD

I don't know. I think some of the tactics they use are..unethical.

RUSSELL

You think people are coming back to Facebook or Instagram to connect with their Friends? No. They're trying to eek out another hit before they revert back to thinking about that one time they were seven and mom brought over that strange man from spin class.

Russell stares off into the distance.

ERLICH

Yea, they're all cocaine dealers in the Valley. Am I right Russell?

RUSSELL

(disinterested)

Yea.

DINESH

We already made some great changes to the platform I think you're going to like.

GILFOYLE

Mostly my handiwork. Dinesh did get me a coke during my painting of the Sistine. I'll give him credit for that.

Russell starts clicking through the Pied Piper platform. He starts clicking louder, eventually slamming the mouse down hard on the table.

RUSSELL

What is going on with this thing? I have no idea what I'm supposed to do with this. Gamify this fucking thing.

GILFOYLE

(under his breath)
Michelangelo wasn't appreciated during his time either.

RICHARD

If we make changes like that, it could have serious ramifications to the algorithm that -

RUSSELL

Ah ta-ta-ta-ta. Richard. I don't care how my doors do this.

Russell makes a suicide doors motion with his hands.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

I just care that they do THIS.

Turning to Jared.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

I love this guy. I can smell the stank on his fingers from here.

Russell turns to Richard.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

Richard. Just get it done.

Russell puts on his Versace shades and rolls out on his blue hoverboard.

ERLICH

He's right Richard. Make us some money. All of my assets are tied up in this.

(MORE)

ERLICH (CONT'D)
Even my Thai erotic novel
collection. I might have to seek
outside employment.

BIG HEAD
Yea. I'm going to need to look for
work too. After lawyer fees, I'm
in debt.

RICHARD
Big Head? Where did you come from?

BIG HEAD
Oh I've been here the whole time.

ERLICH
I guess we'll be competing in the
same market Big Head. Good luck
with that.

BIG HEAD
I think I like my chances.

ERLICH
Who would hire you over me? That's
patently ridiculous. Did you not
hear of Aviato? Companies will
probably keep me on retainer. Like
the executive system they have at
Hooli. Except incredibly cooler.

BIG HEAD
I already did that remember? Hooli
took me on for -

ERLICH
Not now Big Head. I don't have
time for your prattling. I'm going
to do this old school - paper
resume. The tech community will
cling to my CV like flies on shit.
To Kinkos I go!

Erlich heads out the door and Big Head meanders away to
another room.

DINESH
You know. In the middle of his
rambling. Russell did say
something interesting.

GILFOYLE
What was that? How did you parse
anything out of that drivel?

DINESH

About microdosing. My cousin tried it a while back. "Tremendous experience" he kept telling me.

GILFOYLE

I feel like that on LSD too.

DINESH

Well he did sell his company for a few hundred million. Their product was a cod piece. Now that I say that out loud, it's starting to make a whole lot more sense. But he said it changed his life.

Gilfoyle ponders a moment.

GILFOYLE

No that's too easy. I'll let that one pass.

JARED

Well you know, back in my early Hooli days, one of the Engineers there convinced me to go to Burning Man. I have a vial of the stuff. Shall I get us "the hook up", as they say?

GILFOYLE

You went to Burning Man?

CUT TO:

A clip plays of Jared dancing in a loin cloth and tutu next to fellow festival goers. He gives a thumbs up to a man with a stuffed animal attached to his crotch.

JARED

Yea. Those were good times.

GILFOYLE

Well I'm down to try it. If it's any good I know an Occult that is in the market for a re-up. What about you, narc?

DINESH

Narc? I'm no narc! I can do it. I can do the shit out of it.

INT. UBER INTERVIEW ROOM - DAY

A giant white "U" is sitting above the front desk. A man in a white jumpsuit walks by with a large painting that says "Fucking Awesome". For a split second we only see the "Fuck" and the "U".

Erlich is sitting across from an interviewer.

ERLICH

Well thank you for having me in. I have a slew of ideas for your platform. I'd like to start by discussing -

INTERVIEWER

Wonderful, wonderful. I'm glad you said that. Because we'd like you to create a presentation with those very ideas.

ERLICH

Presentation?

INTERVIEWER

Oh yes yes. All very standard procedure. We like to get a sense for how our candidates think.

ERLICH

Will there be payment of some sort for this kind of work?

INTERVIEWER

(laughing)

Oh no, that's not how this works. We'll expect the presentation in 48 hours.

The Interviewer slams a large stack of papers on the table between them.

ERLICH

Will I be coming in to give this presentation?

INTERVIEWER

We will let you know if that is necessary. Jeannie will give you the particulars.

(yelling)

JEANNIE! GET THE FUCK OVER HERE!

(under his breath)

Where the hell is that woman?

Jeannie runs into the room and nearly trips over her heels.

JEANNIE

Yes Sir!

INTERVIEWER

Ah. There you are. Give our friend here the run down.

The Interviewer looks down at his phone and is now ignoring Erlich.

JEANNIE

(in a monotone voice)

Uber is a wonderful and open place to work. It's been wonderful here. Please create your presentation in a very clear and legible manner. More detail is better. Uber will own all of the content in said presentation. Again, Uber is a lovely place to be and we look forward to you joining us.

Erlich sits stunned.

He stares at The Interviewer. The Interviewer looks up from his phone.

INTERVIEWER

What are you still doing here? You only have 48 hours. I'd get started.

The Interviewer leaves the room.

Jeannie looks over her shoulder and then stares at Erlich.

She mouths two words.

JEANNIE

(silent)

Help. Me.

Erlich grabs the stack of papers and backs out of the room slowly.

INT. ANONYMOUS TECH CO INTERVIEW ROOM - DAY

Big head is sitting across from an interviewer.

BIG HEAD

So yea. At Hooli I did some stuff.

INTERVIEWER

Stuff. I like that. Do you care to expound a little more?

BIG HEAD

You know. Things. I did things. With Hooli. I was there.

INTERVIEWER

Great. Great. I'm sold. Did you have a look around the office yet. We have a cafe that we modeled after Les Deux Maggots in Paris. They have an artisinal cheese that will make you nut your pants.

INT. SUPERCCELL OFFICES - DAY

Richard has arrived at Supercell. There is a giant image of a wizard holding a staff that is emanating suspiciously from his crotch. It's aimed directly at the girl at the desk that checked him in.

Richard looks at it awkwardly as he waits in the waiting room.

A mousey looking man with glasses comes out wearing plastic gold plated armor.

MOUSEY MAN

What dost thoust bring to our castle?

RICHARD

Uh..I didn't bring anything. I had a 3pm meeting.

MOUSEY MAN

Ah but dost thoust not have an offering for the fine noblemen that beseech you today?

RICHARD

I guess not.

The mousey man pulls aside his plastic armor to reveal a very real gun. Richard nearly jumps out of his skin.

RICHARD (CONT'D)

Oh..oh my god!

The Mousey Man is now speaking in a long island accent.

MOUSEY MAN
You fucking with me?

RICHARD
Uh, no. I promise I am not fucking
with you.

The Mousey Man leans in close to Richard.

MOUSEY MAN
You like my piece?

The Mousey Man licks the gun.

RICHARD
Yes. No. I don't know!

MOUSEY MAN
No?!

RICHARD
Yes!

MOUSEY MAN
You better respect this right here.
This isn't a game.

RICHARD
I understand. It isn't a game. It
isn't a game!

MOUSEY MAN
Good. Now get your ass in there.
Conference room 3. (muttering)
Doesn't even bring an offering.

Richard walks up to the conference room and knocks.

HEAD OF PRODUCT
You may enter.

Richard walks through the door.

HEAD OF PRODUCT (CONT'D)
Ah. Richard. Heard a lot about
you. Pleasure.

The two shake hands.

RICHARD
Thanks for having me. You guys
sure take security seriously don't
you?

HEAD OF PRODUCT

What do you mean?

RICHARD

Oh. I was just referring to the guy in the lobby. He was wearing ... armor I guess? Seemed to take his job very seriously. Spoke liketh he was ineth olden times.

HEAD OF PRODUCT

Oh I see you've met Hank. Yea no, Hank doesn't work for us. We found him at a Tenderloin shelter and invited him to come see the offices one day. He still pops in from time to time.

RICHARD

And the gun you gave him?

HEAD OF PRODUCT

Gun? What are you talking about.

RICHARD

He pulled a - a ... piece on me!

HEAD OF PRODUCT

I'm sure it was just your imagination. Now let's get down to business shall we? Russell tells me he wants you to learn from us.

RICHARD

Well yea. I thought you'd be a good team to learn from. I'm really impressed with your Monthly Active User and Revenue growth.

HEAD OF PRODUCT

Ah well thank you Richard. Glad you did your research. Do you want to know our secret?

RICHARD

That would be awesome. Yes.

HEAD OF PRODUCT

Great. Now get ready to take some notes. This stuff is going to come at you fast.

Richard pulls out his notepad and looks on eagerly.

HEAD OF PRODUCT (CONT'D)

Now what you want to focus on, is making the user happy. Give them what they want. Do some qualitative research.

Richard is nodding at this point, very much into the speech about pleasing users.

HEAD OF PRODUCT (CONT'D)

And then. We pump them for all they're worth.

Richard continues to nod until a confused look comes across his face.

RICHARD

Uh. Pump them?

HEAD OF PRODUCT

It's a very simple formula.

The Head of Product walks up to the white board.

He draws a very crude stick figure, a plus sign, a picture of a baggie, an equal sign and a dollar sign.

HEAD OF PRODUCT (CONT'D)

Now stick with me here. We take our users, fatten them up with loops, offers, messaging and promises. That's represented by this little bag over here.

Richard is nodding again.

HEAD OF PRODUCT (CONT'D)

And then, we rip the rug out from under them! Get them hooked, then charge, charge, charge! Charge for pixels like we're slinging crack that the sweet baby Jesus cooked himself.

RICHARD

Baby Jesus?

HEAD OF PRODUCT

Don't get caught up in the particulars Richard.

RICHARD

Isn't that a little...disingenuous?

The Head of Product's expression becomes sour.

HEAD OF PRODUCT
We're a business Richard. My P&L
is green motherfucker. What does
your P&L look like?

RICHARD
Uh...I...

HEAD OF PRODUCT
That's what I thought. You wish
your grass was this green. We have
only the greenest fields. We don't
mess with that red dirt on this
side of the tracks.

The Head of Product is getting aggressive.

RICHARD
I understand. I'm sorry.

HEAD OF PRODUCT
Do you want green pastures Richard?

RICHARD
Yes.

HEAD OF PRODUCT
Then listen to what I told you.
And start printing cash.

RICHARD
Ok.

The Head of Product has softened his stance.

HEAD OF PRODUCT
Well thanks for coming in buddy.

Richard gets up to leave.

RICHARD
Before I leave. How did you say
you knew Russell again?

HEAD OF PRODUCT
Oh. We met at Secret Solstice
festival on a private helicopter.
Two eight balls and four Russian
hookers later we were the best of
pals!

RICHARD

Got it.

HEAD OF PRODUCT

Hey if you see him. Tell him I
still have that hookup with that
tiny little redhead he likes.

INT. HACKER HOUSE - DAY

Dinesh, Gilfoyle and Jared are sitting cross legged in a
circle. They're staring at a Visine bottle.

DINESH

So that's it?

JARED

That is it. Indeedy.

DINESH

I'll never look at eye drops the
same again. So how do we know how
much to do?

JARED

Well it's already dosed out. One
drop should be a enough for each of
us.

DINESH

Well who goes first.

JARED

Why don't you go?

DINESH

No you go.

JARED

No no I insist. You.

Gilfoyle rolls his eyes.

GILFOYLE

Will you two stop playing grab ass
with each other?

Gilfoyle grabs the bottle and squeezes two drops down his
gullet.

JARED

Wow. Ok. Dinesh you ready?

DINESH
I suppose so.

Jared squeezes the drop for dinesh.

DINESH (CONT'D)
Nyuck! It tastes like pennies.

GILFOYLE
You look like a baby bird being fed
by his mother.

JARED
I guess that just leaves me.

Jared takes his drop with a big smile.

DINESH
Now what do we do?

GILFOYLE
Now we wait. Noob.

INT. HACKER HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Some time has passed. The CAMERA moves around the circle focusing on Jared, Dinesh and Gilfoyle's faces. It looks a lot like That 70's Show.

DINESH
Do you feel anything yet?

GILFOYLE
Thanks for the clichéd line.

JARED
Just give it a moment. The wave
will hit us soon enough.

DINESH
I guess so.

JARED
By the way. Were you able to push
out the latest code release?

We see Dinesh's eyes turn into sand dollars.

The words echo: Code Release, Code Release, Code Release

CUT TO DINESH'S
POINT OF VIEW:

INT. HACKER HOUSE - DAY

The room is starting to melt.

Eventually the room fades away and we see only white.

INT. GREY ROOM - DAY

A Young Dinesh sits at a computer typing away happily. He's wearing braces.

An older Indian man approaches Dinesh. It looks to be Dinesh's Father.

DINESH'S FATHER

What is this nonsense?

YOUNG DINESH

This is code dad.

DINESH'S FATHER

Code? I do not care about any code. Now, you will be a Doctor or a Dentist and that is the end of it!

YOUNG DINESH

But Dad. I don't care about that stuff. I can reach millions on my computer. I can only reach a couple people as a Doctor.

DINESH'S FATHER

You'll reach the people that matter. Your mother and I. Now give me that.

Dinesh's Father grabs the mouse from Dinesh's hand.

YOUNG DINESH

But Dad!

DINESH'S FATHER

But Dad nothing. You will march in there and study the cadaver I have brought home for you.

Young Dinesh is writing on a cadaver with a sharpie to label the various body parts. He does not look pleased.

INT. RED ROOM - NIGHT

Flames are spread all around.

Out of nowhere, a sports car with suicide doors screeches into view.

Russell, wearing a devil costume, pops out and starts making the suicide door motion with his hands.

He cackles and laughs maniacally.

Jared appears in view now, wearing a red body suit. He's smiling and looking as goofy as ever.

RUSSELL
This guy fucks!

Russell and Jared start to make out for a moment before
BLACK.

INT. HACKER HOUSE - DAY

Dinesh has started to sweat profusely and has a look of pure horror on his face.

He's staring at Jared.

We shift to Gilfoyle, who is starting to gnash his teeth.

CUT TO
GILFOYLE'S POINT
OF VIEW:

INT. SUBURBAN STREET - DAY

It looks like Pleasantville. The homes all look the same, with matching white picket fences and lawns.

Couples walk around in sweater vests and swing dresses.

They all wave and smile at Gilfoyle.

SUBURBANITE 1
Hello! Have a lovely day.

SUBURBANITE 2
We're having a sale on loafers. I highly suggest you give it a look!

INT. SUBURBAN HOME - DAY

A woman that looks like a 50's HOUSEWIFE sticks her head into the living room wearing her black and white apron. She has a great big smile on her face.

HOUSEWIFE

Well, come on kids. You're not going off to school without a hot breakfast inside you...

The kids, who appear to be in their teens, just stare at her.

HOUSEWIFE (CONT'D)

Now here you go.

The kids exchange smiles and then slowly rise to their feet.

HOUSEWIFE (CONT'D)

I just love you in that sweater Mary-Sue! It's so flattering.

DAUGHTER

Thanks mom. You're so swell!

Gilfoyle walks into a room with a full-length mirror. He stares at himself. He's wearing khakis, a sweater vest and a checkered button down.

He lets out a scream.

GILFOYLE

Ahhhhh!

INT. HACKER HOUSE - DAY

Gilfoyle is hugging himself and rocking back and forth. Dinesh is now in the fetal position.

Jared has a big grin on his face.

CUT TO JARED'S
POINT OF VIEW:

INT. WHITE ROOM - DAY

Jared is walking around a room with nothing in it. It looks like it could be lodging for a mental patient. He has a perma-smile plastered on his face.

Another Jared clone walks in and waves to the original Jared.

More clones walk in until the room is filled with smiling Jareds.

Richard walks into the room.

The Jareds call out in unison.

JAREDS
Aww. Richard!

All of the Jareds move to hug Richard.

INT. HACKER HOUSE - DAY

Jared is sitting and smiling just as before. He appears very content.

INT. HACKER HOUSE BEDROOM - DAY

Erlich is hunched over a stack of papers. He takes a hit from his bong and blows the smoke over his keyboard. He types a few strokes on the keyboard.

MONTAGE:

A series of cuts that show Erlich working maniacally. He's smiling. He's hitting the bong. He's moving between the white board and his laptop.

The white board is full of equations - it looks like he figured out an unsolved quantum physics theorem. Erlich is nodding his head and smiling. He types away furiously.

One more hit of the bong. He hits the enter key with authority.

END OF MONTAGE

INT. KINKOS - DAY

Erlich is standing at the printer waiting for his extensive presentation to print out.

Big Head walks in. He's wearing a tan jacket and is eating a large ice cream cone. He looks like Rain Man.

BIG HEAD
Hey Erlich. What are you up to?

A ring of ice cream is surrounding Big Head's mouth.

ERLICH

Oh. Hello Big Head. I'm just printing out an important presentation. Important company business. I signed an NDA so I can't tell you who it's for.

BIG HEAD

Printing out huh? Seems a little...old school?

ERLICH

I want to hand one to each of my interviewers Big Head. It's about the attention to detail. That's what sets me apart. I'm already at this stage. Only a man with my charm and my wit could have pulled off such a feat.

BIG HEAD

Well actually, I already -

ERLICH

Ah Big Head. I understand. You've fallen behind in the job hunt. The job market can be a cruel mistress. Such wonderful treasures, but all behind lock and key. This presentation, my dear Big Head. Is my key.

BIG HEAD

Oh. Oh ok.

ERLICH

Now now Big Head. Feel better. When I am established, I'll be sure to reach out and give you a...moderately glowing reference.

INT. UBER HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Erich walks up confidently to the front desk and the female Receptionist.

He drops a large stack of papers with a THUD.

ERLICH

Hello. Yes. I'm here to give a very important presentation.

RECEPTIONIST

Oh ok. And who were you going to see?

ERLICH

Well. I'm not entirely sure to be honest. I know that it was a very important group. Extremely important even. You may want to bring down Travis and Emil. They'll want to hear what I have to say.

RECEPTIONIST

Hmm. Was this part of an interview?

ERLICH

Well I hate to have the importance of this be belittled like that. Pfft, just an interview. But that is how it began, yes.

RECEPTIONIST

(rolling her eyes)

Ok. Who was your point of contact?

ERLICH

(clearing his throat)

Jeannie. I believe Jeannie was her name.

RECEPTIONIST

One moment please.

The Receptionist gets up and leaves.

She returns with Jeannie.

ERLICH

Oh hello again. I'm here to give my presentation.

JEANNIE

(monotone)

I believe the instructions were pretty clear. You were supposed to send in your presentation notes.

ERLICH

Yes. Well I thought it would be more appropriate if I lent my voice to the words. I think I -

Jeannie points at the stack of papers.

JEANNIE
(monotone)
Is that it?

ERLICH
Yes. I think you'll be impressed
with -

Jeannie snatches up the papers and turns around. She walks fast down the hallways, using the same gait as a speed walker.

She finds the Interviewer. He yells at her as before and grabs the papers from her forcefully.

Jeannie returns looking stoic. No emotions at all.

JEANNIE
(monotone)
Thank you for coming in. We
appreciate you taking the time to
apply to Uber. We appreciate
people of all races, genders and
creeds. We encourage you to -

ERLICH
Is that a queue card that you
memorized? You haven't even heard
my presentation. How can you -

JEANNIE
(monotone)
Again, we thank you for your time.
Please feel free to apply again
within one year of the current
date.

Erlach looks down the hallways to see the Interviewer thumbing through his presentation.

ERLICH
Well if that's the case. I would
like my presentation back.

JEANNIE
That won't be possible. I'm going
to have to ask you to leave the
premises.

Jeannie reaches behind her and grabs a hat and a t-shirt.

JEANNIE (CONT'D)

Here is an Uber hat and an Uber t-shirt. We thank you for continuing to support our company.

ERLICH

I don't support your company! I am going to get that presentation back!

Erlich evades Jeannie like an outside linebacker and makes a beeline for the Interviewer.

Just before Erlich makes it to him, the Interviewer snaps his fingers.

Two men that could be offensive linemen for the San Francisco 49ers block Erlich's way. They're wearing Uber t-Shirts that are way too small for them.

They both shine a toothy grin.

As they grab him Jeannie rushes out.

JEANNIE

Be sure to leave a positive Glassdoor review!

EXT. UBER HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Erlich is tossed outside and stumbles before getting his footing.

A female employee is standing outside holding a box.

EMPLOYEE

What did you do?

ERLICH

I was wrongfully precluded from employment. And they will be hearing from my lawyers.

EMPLOYEE

You must have done something pretty bad. They don't generally like to make a scene. Bad PR.

ERLICH

The only thing that was bad was what they did to me. They took my ideas and gave me the boot! They brain drained me!

EMPLOYEE

Ah. The brain drain. Common maneuver. I hope you didn't spend too much time on your "presentation".

ERLICH

Fuck. They did brain drain me.

Erich takes a long drag of his PAX Weed Pen.

EMPLOYEE

Happens to the best of us.

ERLICH

And what about you. I assume that box isn't for moving in.

EMPLOYEE

No. No it is not. I was let go for speaking up.

ERLICH

Speaking up, huh? That doesn't seem like a fireable offense.

EMPLOYEE

Well I suppose it's a little more complicated than that. Someone in an open relationship made overtures of a sexual nature to me. That someone was my boss.

ERLICH

Are you sure it wasn't a misunderstanding? I know that I've been in a situation or two where -

EMPLOYEE

He grabbed my boob.

Erich clears his throat.

ERLICH

What?

EMPLOYEE

Yup. Just right there in a team meeting. Swooped up behind me and gave me a squeeze.

ERLICH

Even by my standards. That is ridiculous. I assume HR was in an uproar over the incident.

EMPLOYEE

Well let's just say the HR department wasn't very...sympathetic to my cause.

ERLICH

What happened to the guy? I don't see him and his box.

EMPLOYEE

They described him as a "high performer". Probably still in there fucking around with his coworkers.

ERLICH

Well I will not let this stand. These shadowy tactics and sexual dalliances will not stand. What are you planning to do about this?

EMPLOYEE

I was actually planning my next move. Maybe go to the tech press.

ERLICH

Bad PR. Of course! I actually just came into possession of a nice little online tech periodical myself.

EMPLOYEE

Oh wow! Do you have connections to Re-Code or Pando Daily?

ERLICH

Well. Not any you would call positive. But I know people that know people that could get our story out.

EMPLOYEE

Our?

ERLICH

Yes. Our. The world needs to know that these companies are getting the milk without buying the cow.

The Employee stares at Erlich's gut.

ERLICH (CONT'D)
Maybe we won't use that in the
final copy.

INT. HACKER HOUSE - NIGHT

Richard walks into the house and swings off his messenger bag.

Jared spots him immediately and gives him a bear hug.

JARED
Richard. I love you.

RICHARD
Uh...hi to you too Jared.

Richard takes a seat at his computer. He looks at Dinesh and Gilfoyle, still in the fetal position on the floor.

RICHARD (CONT'D)
What's wrong with them?

JARED
I'm not sure. We did take some
doses, as the kids like to say,
earlier in the day. But it should
have worn off hours ago.

RICHARD
Doses? Doses of what?

DINESH
LSD. I saw my whole life flash
before my eyes. It wasn't pretty.

GILFOYLE
I saw some sort of dystopian future
or past. It was like Rick
Santorum's wet dream. It was
horrible. Sweater vests. So many
sweater vests.

Erlich and Big Head walk in arguing.

ERLICH
There is no way that you were hired
Big Head. It doesn't work that
way.

Erlich points to himself

ERLICH (CONT'D)

You see, the market pushes the cream of the crop, to the top. And then, there might be a slot or two open for the leftovers.

BIG HEAD

Well not only was I hired. I got a pretty sweet package too. Apparently people valued my time at Hooli. I -

ERLICH

Oh sweet, sweet Big Head. Such illusions of grandeur.

BIG HEAD

I swear!

ERLICH

Ah Big Head, trying to save face. I understand. I hate to call you out like this. But if you can provide me with proof. I will ... well, I am slightly deficient monetarily right now. But I will do a labor task of your choosing. How about that?

BIG HEAD

Hmm.

ERLICH

So Richard. Did you learn anything about revenue generation from your gaming pilgrimage? I could really use the cash right now.

RICHARD

Well. I did hear some things. At least a little good.

ERLICH

And?

RICHARD

Well, what I took away is that we need to provide value for our customers.

ERLICH

And?

RICHARD

That's it. I don't think I want to use the rest. We'll go our own way.

ERLICH

Jesus Richard. That gives us nothing! We might as well be a college freshman with his dick in his hands right now. And it can't get hard. Just, flaccid. None of the experience and none of the balls.

Richard just looks down at his own crotch awkwardly.

ERLICH (CONT'D)

Well I do have other news. The blog I purchased will be breaking a sordid tale of sexual abuse and unfair hiring practices. These large companies need to be taken to task for their reckless disregard for their current, and future, employees.

BIG HEAD

Speaking of employees.

Big Head pulls out a sheet of paper. It's an offer letter.

Erlich looks deflated.

EXT. HACKER HOUSE - POOL - DAY

Erlich is outside piecing together fidget spinners. There is a massive pile in front of him of parts.

Big Head's Dad is shown watching from a laptop propped on the glass table by the pool.

ERLICH

Aren't these usually assembled in China? Don't they have, supplier hands for this sort of thing? Cheaper labor?

BIG HEAD'S DAD

Well normally I would have my Chinese connection to handle this.

(MORE)

BIG HEAD'S DAD (CONT'D)

But when Big Head mentioned he had won some sort of challenge with you, I couldn't pass up the chance to have you take up this little task. Doesn't get much cheaper than free does it?

ERLICH

Do you have to watch? This is humiliating.

BIG HEAD'S DAD

Well how else would I know you're doing it right? Now be sure to shine them before you call it done.

Erlich continues to assemble for several more beats in silence while Big Head's dad enjoys a cup of tea over the credits.

FADE OUT