

**"The Office: An American Workplace"**

**by  
Greg Daniels**

**Adapted from the original script by  
Stephen Merchant and Ricky Gervais**

FADE IN:

**SCENE 1 - INT. MICHAEL SCOTT'S OFFICE - DAY**

Michael Scott is sitting behind his desk addressing a job seeker.

SCOTT

I'm a busy man. When I give jobs, I don't have time for a lotta B.S. If a guy comes to me and says, "Michael, this job has been my dream since I was a little kid. My whole life has been leading up to this job,"... *That*, I respond to. Nothing is more important than enthusiasm, from the Greek word meaning... 'enthusiastic.' Huh?

He looks to the job seeker, who says nothing.

SCOTT

Only problem 'is, you talk the talk, but you don't walk the walk. Okay, that was global, I'll make it local: you didn't pass your fork-lift driver's test. But... the foreman at the warehouse is a personal friend, okay? So don't sweat it, you're in.

He picks up the receiver and dials.

SCOTT

(into phone, showing off)  
Deon... You dog...Playa!

He winks at the job seeker.

SCOTT

It's "the boss," and when I mean Springsteen, I'll just say "God"... Have you put out an ad for the fork-lift driver's job?

Scott crosses his fingers and bites his lip.

SCOTT

Good, don't, I've got the guy here, he's "the man"... Has he passed his fork-lift driver's test? Playa, he gives the tests...

Scott rolls his eyes.

SCOTT  
Sure... Sure. He's first aid-trained,  
sure. Sure... we'll shoot a resume over  
to you this afternoon.

Scott mimes for the job seeker to type up a resume.

SCOTT  
(into phone)  
We still hangin' on Sunday? No, no, no,  
you can't get out of it! ... How's Jill?  
She left ya yet? Sure... Okay, see you  
then.

He puts down the phone and grits his teeth.

SCOTT  
She left him last month, I forgot about  
that.

## **SCENE 2 - INT. OPEN-PLAN OFFICE - DAY**

Scott is showing the camera crew around his office.

SCOTT  
I've been in the business for twelve  
years. I've been at IDS as general  
manager for eight of those. So, putting  
together my team...

Scott notices Pam at the reception.

SCOTT  
Hey, it's Spam, spam, wonderful Pam. Pam  
Beesly... Receptionist. How ya doin'?  
Been with us forever, right Pam?

PAM  
Yeah.

SCOTT  
Yeah. At one time or another every guy in  
the office has "sprayed on Pam."

PAM  
(annoyed)  
What?

SCOTT  
Any messages?

PAM  
Yeah. Just a fax.

Pam hands him a fax.

SCOTT

Hmm... Pam, this is from Corporate.

PAM

I know...

SCOTT

(somber)

How many times have I told you? There's a special filing cabinet for things from Corporate -

PAM

(worried)

You haven't told me -

SCOTT

- it's called the wastepaper basket!

Scott throws the fax over the counter into Pam's wastepaper basket and laughs at the brilliance of his practical joke.

SCOTT

The look on your face... Ha! You'd better get that back.

**SCOTT TALKING HEAD .INT .DAY**

SCOTT

People say I'm the best boss.

He points to a mug in the foreground with the inscription.

SCOTT

"World's Greatest Boss." They go, "Oh, we've never worked in a place like this before, you're such a riot. You get the best out of us." And I go, you know, "Que sera, sera." If that's true - awesome.

Scott shrugs and looks smugly into camera.

**SCENE 3 .INT. RECEPTION .DAY**

SCOTT

Take it easy on me today, Pam.

PAM

(exasperated)

Yeah? Why's that?

SCOTT  
Oh God. Did I party last night. I was  
out with the Packer. Meredith Packster-  
Birney.


(to camera crew)

Todd Packer.

(to Pam)

Had us a bar hop. f, Duff, that  
wonderful stuff.

Scott mimes drinking.

SCOTT   
D'oh! I was  
baked, a !'Blotto! Wow,  
don't ever come out with me and the Green  
Bay Packer.

PAM  
No, I won't.

SCOTT  
There's guys my age, and they look middle-  
aged... How old do you think I look?

PAM  
Thirty -n -

SCOTT  
(interrupting)  
- Thirty, right... About that. Oh, man I  
have got to slow down. Drinking a little  
too much...

Scott pats his belly.

SCOTT  
...if every single night of the week is  
too much.

PAM  
(joking)  
... And every lunchtime.

Beat. Scott turns suddenly, a cold look in his eyes.

SCOTT  
How many have I had this week?

PAM  
What?

SCOTT

How many beers have I drunk this week?  
If you're counting...

PAM

I'm not counting.

SCOTT

You seem to be counting. Does it offend you, huh? You know, that's getting a little... a little bit personal. What if I started doing that with you? I could look at you and come out with something clever like, "You're really... uh..."

He can't think of anything.

SCOTT

...but I don't. Because I'm a professional and professionalism is... uh... And that is what I want, okay? That's all. I'm disappointed, Pam. I really am.

He strides off, leaving Pam speechless.

#### **SCENE 4. INT . OPEN PLAN OFFICE . DAY**

Shots of office life. Jim is working. Dwight arrives and smacks Jim upside the head with a newspaper.

DWIGHT

Wassaaaaap?

Jim looks indignant.

JIM

Oh, fu... Don't do that, Jesus...

DWIGHT

Aw, what's the matter? Is it your time of the month? Whew. Just ten brewskis for me last night. Yeah, that's all.

(burps)

Uhhhh.

Dwight pretends to find a headline in his newspaper.

DWIGHT

Oh, no! Here it is! "I S team leader caught out drinking wit boss... Senior management completely trashed" Whew. And tonight I'm going out with Animal.

(MORE)

DWIGHT (cont'd)  
 Yeah, we're just gonna go to the library  
 and read - not! I doubt it!

**JIM TALKING HEAD - INT - DAY**

JIM  
 I'm a sales rep, which means that my job  
 is to speak to clients on the phone about  
 er...quantity and type of paper - whether  
 we can supply it to them and whether they  
 can pay for it...and I'm boring myself  
 talking about it...

**SCENE 5 - INT - DESK AREA - DAY**

Scott emerges from his office, smiling.

SCOTT  
 Wassaaaap?

JIM  
 Hey! `Wassaaaap?' I still love that.

SCOTT  
 Wassaaaap? Ohhh.

Points at Dwight.

SCOTT  
 You're fired, Schrute, ya big drunk.

Scott points to himself, laughing.

SCOTT  
 Pot calling the kettle black here.

Scott mimes vomiting  
 and then starts ggling.  
 Dwight joins in.



SCOTT

What'd he tell you It's all true.  
 Guilty as a futh mucker. Went out with  
 a few of his cr w last night. He goes,  
 "Well, you can come if you want, but I  
 gotta warn you, Michael, they can get  
 rowdy." I go, "Oh, I'll see if I can  
 handle it." I was worse than them by the  
 end, wasn't I? They're going, "Who's that  
 freak?" "That's my boss." "Well we can't  
 stand it any more, we're leaving." They  
 just snuck out, didn't they?

DWIGHT  
 (aside to Jim)  
 I told you.

SCOTT  
 Outrageous!

Scott puts one hand round his throat, another reaching out in front of him as if dying.

SCOTT  
 Help me, A.A!

Scott laughs, waiting for a response. There is none.

SCOTT  
 What?

JIM  
 Nothing.

SCOTT  
 ... See you later.

JIM  
 Okay, see you later. Take care.

**SCENE 6 - I RECEPTION - DAY**  
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Jan Tarnovsky-Gould approaches Pam at reception. Scott's talking head begins over this.

**SCOTT TALKING HEAD - INT - DAY**

SCOTT  
 Corporate doesn't really interfere with me at all. Jan Tarnovsky-Gould. I call her, er... Ruth Bader-Ginsburg, heh heh - not to her face...but not because I'm scared of her.

**SCENE 7 - INT - SCOTT'S OFFICE - DAY**

Jan and Scott are sitting in Scott's office. Pam comes in and sits down. Scott is discussing his tie.

SCOTT  
 I got them off an African guy, you know, had a suit-case out on the street. Two for ten bucks. "Yo, I'll take four." So...okay. Meeting with Jan Tarnovsky-Gould. Present.



Jan takes some papers from her bag. She crosses her legs and Scott sneaks a look.

SCOTT  
(lascivious)  
Mmm. Shoot!

JAN  
Was there anything that you wanted to add to the agenda?

SCOTT  
(trying to be cool)  
Me no get an agenda.

JAN  
Sorry?

SCOTT  
I did not get any agenda.

JAN  
I faxed you one this morning.

SCOTT  
No, we never got a fax, did we Pam?

PAM  
Well, maybe...

SCOTT  
(passing the buck)  
Then why isn't it in my hand? Because a company runs on efficiency of communication.

PAM  
You put it in the garbage can that was a special filing cabinet.

SCOTT  
(to Jan, covering himself)  
As a joke, yeah. It's not even my joke, it's my brother's joke and it's supposed to be with bills. Doesn't work great with faxes.

JAN  
Do you want to look at mine?

SCOTT  
(humbled)  
Yeah.

**SCOTT TALKING HEAD - INT - DAY**

SCOTT

Yeah, sure, she'd say she's the boss, but there shouldn't be any ego when you're pulling together to do something good, y' know? It's like Comic Relief. I'm out here in Africa and I'm seeing the flies and the starvation...and she - if she is the boss - she's in the studio with, you know, Robin Williams and Whoopi Goldberg. They're doing their job, they're counting the money. Good for them. But, their hands are clean, while I'm down here in the office with the little starving kids...

**SCENE 8 - INT. SCOTT'S OFFICE - DAY**

JAN

Okay, since the last meeting, Alan and the board have decided that we can't justify a Scranton branch and a Stamford branch.

SCOTT

(obviously flustered)

Oh, okay, go on...

JAN

No, no, listen, Michael, don't panic -

SCOTT

- Oh, go on. Should be good. This is it. Go on -

JAN

- No, listen, Michael, no, no, no -

SCOTT

- Alarm bells, so -

JAN

- No, don't panic... We haven't made any -

SCOTT

- I don't panic -

JAN

- We haven't made any decisions yet -

SCOTT

- Good -