

INT. BIG STUPID OFFICE BUILDING - FLOOR - DAY

Open on a yellow, 8.5-by-11-inch sheet of paper taped to the carpet.

Scrawled on the paper in sharpie: "DO NOT STEP HERE."

Pull back to reveal an otherwise normal (i.e. "boring") corporate office. Workers mill about, murmur into phones, get coffee, etc. It's a business casual extravaganza.

TOMMY, 30s, a temp in rumpled biz-casual clothes, stands at the copier. He stares at the "DO NOT STEP HERE" sign.

It's truly a puzzle.

DOUG, a douche co-worker in tight pants, pops next to Tommy.

DOUG

Cancel your lunch plans, partner.  
Ron is springing for donuts for  
the entire team!

TOMMY

What's with that sign?

DOUG

Which sign?

Tommy points.

DOUG

I don't know. If you brought your  
lunch, put it in the fridge. But  
not the black fridge. Gina steals  
from that one.

TOMMY

Did something spill?

DOUG

Where?

TOMMY

On the carpet.

DOUG

I don't know. It's probably  
covering up a wet spot or  
something. Do you have any  
Tupperware? I'm gonna take some  
donuts home.

DARLENE (50's, strict manager) stalks toward the guys.

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CONTINUED:

DARLENE

'Hitch' or 'White Chicks,' Doug? I need your vote for movie day.

DOUG

I told you my vote, remember? 'Hitch.'

DARLENE

But you didn't email it. It has to be emailed to count.

DOUG

OK. I'm sorry, Darlene. I'll do it as soon as I get back to my desk.

She leans in close.

DARLENE

You are on thin ice, Doug.

Darlene skulks away. Doug gulps.

TOMMY

But it didn't seep through.

DOUG

Huh?

TOMMY

If that sign was covering something wet, it would've seeped through. It's just paper.

DOUG

Yeah. I guess you're right.

They stare at the sign for a while.

TOMMY

Weird.

INT. BIG STUPID OFFICE BUILDING - TOMMY'S CUBICLE

Tommy tries to work, but he keeps staring out the cubicle entrance, to the sign on the floor.

Doug pops up from the neighboring cubicle.

DOUG

It could be a request.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TOMMY

From who?

DOUG

I don't know. Georgette over there's a total skag about people talking.

TOMMY

Then why not put the sign higher? It's taped to the floor. Like it's covering something.

DOUG

Dude, I can't let you drag me down this rabbit hole. Just get to work.

Doug sits down. Tommy peeks over the cubicle.

TOMMY

What if that's it?

DOUG

I'm not liiiiistening.

TOMMY

What if it's a hole?

Doug picks up the phone.

DOUG

Thank you for calling Agent Services.

TOMMY

Nobody called you. Are you hiding something? Did I get it right? Is it a hole?

DOUG

Yeah, genius. It's a piece of paper covering a hole.

Tommy looks to the sign.

TOMMY

It's puzzling.

DOUG

Not for me. I'm concentrating on work. Fun time is reserved for breaks and when we play Pictionary.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

HANNAH, another co-worker in her young 20s, leans in.

HANNAH  
Are we playing Pictionary again  
today?

DOUG  
Team building.

TOMMY  
Hi, Hannah.

HANNAH  
Hey. I suck at Pictionary.

DOUG  
It's not you. Darlene writes the  
clues, so they're filled with  
typos. Last time I got "grass  
shirt."

HANNAH  
What's a grass shirt?

DOUG  
They meant "grass skirt," but  
everyone's so dumb they didn't  
even know it was wrong.

Tommy keeps staring at Hannah.

HANNAH  
I gotta make some calls. Later.

TOMMY  
Bye, Hannah.

Exit Hannah.

DOUG  
Smooth.

TOMMY  
What if it's some sort of test?

DOUG  
\*Sigh\* Seriously?

TOMMY  
It could be a social experiment to  
test who will be brave enough to  
step on it and defy the sign.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

DOUG

Or maybe it's an un-detonated landmine.

TOMMY

Maybe!

DOUG

Or if you step on it, you win a giant check and balloons drop from the ceiling.

TOMMY

Sure.

DOUG

Or a lion cage drops on you, trapping you, and then a lion comes out and eats you.

TOMMY

You never know.

DOUG

Yes, I do, Tommy. I do know. This is just some damn job, OK? It's just a job, where amazing things do NOT happen. They fill the margins with Pictionary and random viewings of 'White Chicks,' but that's just to keep us from killing ourselves or each other!

Everyone in the office heard this. Darlene heads over.

DARLENE

Doug?

She motions for him to come to her desk.

INT. BIG STUPID OFFICE BUILDING - ELEVATOR - LATER

Doug carries his stuff in a box. He nudges the down button and waits.

Tommy appears, eating a donut.

TOMMY

Hey, I figured it out!

DOUG

I got fired, Tommy. Can you not see that?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TOMMY

I know, I'm sorry about that whole  
dragging-you-down-with-me thing.

DOUG

Up yours. As in "Fuck yourself UP  
YOUR asshole."

TOMMY

Doug?

Tommy holds out a donut to Doug. Doug motions to his box.

Tommy rests the donut on the box.

TOMMY

Your severance package, right?

DOUG

(Smiling, somehow)  
You're an idiot.

Tommy winks and heads off.

The door opens and Doug steps onto the elevator.

He turns around and sees the "DO NOT STEP HERE" sign.

Parked next to it is a cart filled with DONUTS.

Images fly through his head, the handwritten letters  
swirling about.

He pictures Darlene writing the words:

"DONUT STOP HERE."

DOUG

"Grass shirts." Shit.

The box slips a bit in his hand. Doug recovers, but his  
donut lands between the elevator doors.

The doors close, smashing the donut.

BLACKOUT.