

FEB-24-2006 12:08 FROM:OUT OF PRACTICE

3238621163

TO:FAX NUMBER

P.13/17

"CLARISSA"

1.

"UNTITLED PAUL REISER PROJECT"

CLIFF
Said it's "time for you to grow up."

CLARISSA ASSES MY.

CLARISSA
HA! (OFF THEIR LOOK) I'm sorry, did I say that out loud?

DANNY
("DO YOU MIND?" Clarissa...?)

CLARISSA
You're right, my bad. (MOVING ON)
You got a couple of calls.

DANNY
(TAKING THE MESSAGES) Thank you.

SHE STARTS AWAY, BUT CAN'T HELP HERSELF.

CLARISSA
(CHUCKLING) "Grow up." (TO CLIFF)
Wanna hear what this guy thinks is "grown up?" He takes a bath towel --

DANNY
(CUTTING HER OFF) Again, the personal comments? Not so appropriate here.

CLARISSA
(EXITING) You're right. My bad.

She turns to exit, COMPOSES HERSELF and turns back:

Start →

CLARISSA (CONT'D)
Okay, and I want to say something

DANNY
You know, maybe later would be...

CLARISSA
(DETERMINED) No I want to say this.
Get it off my chest. (HERE IT COMES)
I have noticed - and, frankly, many
others in the workplace here have
noticed - that sometimes, with you,
there's a "tone" in your voice...

DANNY
A tone?

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2.

CLARISSA

That's right - a "tone" in the way you talk to people that, if you want to know the truth, I find "not so appropriate."

DANNY

I don't think I ----

CLARISSA

(CUTTING HIM OFF) Appp, appp, appppp let her talk. You always get to talk. Now I get to talk. (HE YIELDS THE FLOOR, AND SHE CONTINUES) Sometimes - not all the time, but a lot of times, you have this thing - a little condescending, a little patronizing...

DANNY

I don't think I'm patronizing.

CLARISSA

Yeah, you are. It's always, like, "Clarissa, do this... Clarissa, do that. Clarissa, could you go here, could you run down there..." And after a while, it starts to get good and irksome, believe me!

HE STARTS TO SPEAK, BUT:

CLARISSA (CONT'D)

And you know I'm not a complainer. Am I? Have I ever complained before? No. I have never missed a day's work never been late - except that one time my uncle had the blood vessel that popped, I had to drive him to the emergency room. (AN ASIDE) Where his skeeve wife was at 8:30 in the a.m., none of my business. But whatever. I took him myself. That's who I am. And I'm not looking for a medal. I'm just illustrating the point that other than the one incident, I have never been a minute late for a day of work. And I think I do a damn good job at my job when I am here.

DANNY

You do.

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3.

CLARISSA

Thank you. (STARTING TO LOSE A BIT OF HER STEAM) So, I'm just saying... You might want to be a little bit more... you know, sensitive to other people, and...and... to how you are.

DANNY

(POINT TAKEN) Well. If I have ever been accidentally condescending to you, I apologize. Really.

SHE IS MOVED BY HIS SINCERITY, AND SOFTENS CONSIDERABLY.

CLARISSA

Nahh... hey, it's not just you. This morning, some idiot... I'm making a left on to Queens Boulevard, he cuts right in front of me and -- (WAVES IT AWAY) And I'm also a little PMS-y so... Plus, I didn't eat lunch which is... always a bad idea with me. I get a little extra irritable.

DANNY

Hey, listen. Everybody's allowed to blow off some steam once in a while.

CLARISSA

(NEVER KNEW THAT) Really?

DANNY

Sure.

CLARISSA

(COULDN'T BE HAPPIER)
Okay. Thanks.

SHE AWKWARDLY TRIED TO FIND A GRACEFUL EXIT LINE.

CLARISSA (CONT'D)

So... Okay... I'm gonna... I'm gonna go eat an orange.

AND SHE HEADS OFF.

END SCENE

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