

INT. OFFICE-DAY

Eight cubicles fill a small carpeted room with no windows. CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS, talking into headsets, occupy each cubicle.

SHELLEY, 30, sits in one of those cubicles. Two bins hold papers, the one on the left holds more than the one on the right. A computer monitor sits on the desk in front of her. She grips a Ghostbusters mug and stares at her poster of Dune's Arrakis while talking to someone on her headset.

SHELLEY

I have you pulled up on my screen here and it looks like the date of activation was the twelfth, so that shouldn't be the issue. Yes, I understand. It is still under warranty if you wish to ship it back to us. We could send someone out, yes, but honestly, it would end up costing you more than...exactly. Right, under warranty. Yes, that is what I would recommend. You're welcome.

Shelley pushes a button on the side of her headset, takes a swig of coffee and sets her mug down on a Stargate coaster.

INT. OFFICE-DAY (LATER)

Shelley's back on her headset. The right bin in Shelley's cubicle now holds more papers than her left bin.

SHELLEY

I completely understand, absolutely. You have a good day.

Shelley takes her headset off, rubs her neck. FRED, 26, pops his head over the wall of Shelley's cubicle.

FRED

Hey, Shelley. We were thinking of trying out that new place, Twin Fish.

SHELLEY

Good luck. I hear they're booked for the next month.

FRED

I know, that's why we were thinking maybe with your connections-

SHELLEY

I don't have connections, my mother does. I'm not part of any of that.

FRED

Couldn't you try?

SHELLEY

There's a taco truck off Broad. Mention my name and you may get an extra napkin.

FRED

Whatever.

Fred wanders off. Shelley stands, stretches, puts her coat on, and grabs a digital camera out of her drawer.

EXT. CITY STREETS-DAY

The setting sun bathes the small city in a pink glow as Shelley peddles her bike down the street, passing cars stuck in a gridlock.

EXT. CITY PARK ENTRANCE-DAY

Shelley stops by the gates to a park and pulls out her camera. She walks her bike into the park.

EXT. CITY PARK-DAY

Shelley moves down a paved path, stopping occasionally to take a picture of an older couple holding hands, a dog rolling in the grass, a group of little kids playing super heroes.

She strolls over to a patch of flowers and moves in close for a picture. She doesn't notice a MAN approaching.

MAN

Hi!

Shelley moves her camera up to see the man, ROMP, 42, short, round and beaming with friendliness.

SHELLEY

Hello.

Shelley politely takes her bike and moves away from Romp. He follows.

ROMP

Beautiful time for taking pictures.

SHELLEY

Yep.

ROMP

Beautiful time to be out for a walk!

SHELLEY

Mm-hmm.

Shelley keeps moving. So does Romp.

ROMP

Say, you're Mrs. Clark's daughter, aren't you?

Shelley makes eye contact with Romp, but keeps moving.

SHELLEY

You know my mother?

ROMP

Know of her really. She's on the co-op board for her building. That's an important position.

SHELLEY

Okay.

ROMP

I just happen to know somebody who's applying to live there. He has to be approved before he can move in.

SHELLEY

I can't put in a good word for your friend.

ROMP

Oh, no, I wouldn't ask you to do that. I'd like you to tell your mother not to let him move in.

SHELLEY

What?

ROMP

Do you think you could do that?

Shelley puts on her customer service smile.

SHELLEY

Okay.

ROMP

Really?

Shelley stops, faces Romp.

SHELLEY

Absolutely.

ROMP

Fantastic! Thank you!

SHELLEY

Certainly. Have a good rest of your day.

Romp walks away from Shelley looking very pleased. She starts to walk away, stops, turns and takes a few pictures of Romp.

INT. SHELLEY'S APT-DAY

Shelley stands in the galley kitchen eating a sandwich, talking to MIKA, 30, who stirs pasta in a pot. Mika bears a tattoo reading "trust no 1" on her exposed shoulder.

MIKA

Sounds creepy.

SHELLEY

I didn't get a creepy vibe off of him, though.

MIKA

Are you really going to talk to your mom?

SHELLEY

No, I just wanted to get rid of him. Besides, I can hear her now if I tried to tell her what to do: Don't meddle in things you don't understand, dear.

Mika joins in imitating Shelley's prim mom.

MIKA

Smile, but not too much to show  
your double chin.

SHELLEY

Be smart, but not ugly smart.

Mika holds out her wooden spoon.

MIKA

Always wear pearls, and start your  
day by shoving a stick up your ass.

Shelley, laughing moves out of the kitchen.

LIVING ROOM

Shelley grabs her camera out of her bag and flops down on the couch. She looks at the pictures she took and stops on a picture of Romp.

INT. SHELLEY'S BEDROOM-DAY

A tall shelf on one side of the room holds a massive DVD collection. A mess of clothes hides an armchair. Shelley snorts awake, sits up.

INT. SHELLEY'S APT-DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Shelley shuffles out of her bedroom into the living room, her eyes barely open. She moves past Romp sitting on the couch into the kitchen. She turns around quickly, realizing what she just saw, and stands in the entrance of the kitchen looking at Romp.

ROMP

Hi!

SHELLEY

Nope!

Shelley opens a drawer in the kitchen, grabs a knife and pepper spray, faces Romp.

ROMP

Hey, good for you for being  
prepared.

SHELLEY  
 You shut up! And don't you  
 move. I'm calling the cops.

ROMP  
 That's not necessary.

A knock at the door.

SHELLEY  
 Here they are!

ROMP  
 But you haven't called them yet.

SHELLEY  
 Right.

Shelley, still half asleep moves backwards towards the front door. She whips around, opens the door and RYGEL, 33, tall as the door frame wanders in yawning. He doesn't notice Shelley holding the knife and pepper spray.

SHELLEY  
 Rygel?

RYGEL  
 Morning, Lele. Can I crash for a  
 minute? Thanks.

Rygel doesn't wait for an answer before heading to Shelley's bedroom. Shelley puts her arms down.

RYGEL  
 (to Romp)  
 Sup man?

Rygel and Romp high five. Rygel goes into Shelley's bedroom and closes the door.

ROMP  
 Boyfriend?

SHELLEY  
 Brother.

Shelley remembers she has an intruder, arms up.

SHELLEY  
 I don't know how you got in here-

ROMP  
Your friend let me in.

SHELLEY  
What?  
(shouting)  
Mika! Mika!

ROMP  
She's not here. She's getting  
donuts!

SHELLEY  
She let you in while I was sleeping  
and left.

Rygel pokes his head out of the bedroom.

RYGEL  
Why are you shouting?

SHELLEY  
Why are you here?

Mika enters the apartment holding a box of donuts.

MIKA  
Hello! Guess who got the last  
blueberry cake donut? I almost  
didn't but the guy in front of me  
was the dad of one of my students  
and he let me cut in line.

Mika walks into the living room to see Shelley holding the  
knife and pepper spray.

SHELLEY  
What the hell?

Mika takes a moment to figure out what's wrong.

MIKA  
What? Oh, you mean Romp? Isn't he  
a doll?

SHELLEY  
Your name's Romp?

ROMP  
It is!

SHELLEY  
 (to Mika)  
 This is creepy park guy.

MIKA  
 Romp is creepy park guy?

RYGEL  
 Creepy park guy? You don't seem  
 creepy to me.

ROMP  
 Thank you. The feeling is mutual.

Romp and Rygel high five again.

SHELLEY  
 Seriously! The fuck?

ROMP  
 Did you talk to your mother?

SHELLEY  
 No, of course not!

ROMP  
 It's very important that you do.

SHELLEY  
 Why?

ROMP  
 If you don't, things may be put  
 into motion that have very serious  
 consequences.

SHELLEY  
 What? How do you know?

ROMP  
 I should probably explain. I'm  
 from the future.

RYGEL  
 Oh man!

Everyone looks at Rygel who looks at Mika.

RYGEL  
 Does that mean there's only one  
 blueberry cake donut?



INT. SHELLEY'S APT-DAY (LATER)

Romp, Rygel and Mika sit on the couch, Shelley sits in a nearby chair. She clutches her cup of coffee as she listens. Everyone eats donuts.

ROMP

I ran into him completely by accident and he owed me a favor anyways. That's how I ended up with season tickets!

SHELLEY

You said you were from the future. I thought you were going to tell us about that.

ROMP

Right! What do you want to know?

RYGEL

Who wins the Superbowl twenty years from now?

ROMP

Soccer.

SHELLEY

How high up were you when you fell and hit your head?

Romp chuckles.

ROMP

You have a good wit.

MIKA

Wait, you mentioned Shell's mom again. Is that why you traveled back in time?

Shelley stares at Mika in disbelief. Mika looks at her like "just roll with me for a minute."

MIKA (CON'T)

Why don't you just talk to Mrs. Clark yourself?

ROMP

I thought it would be more convincing coming from her daughter.

SHELLEY

You don't know my mother.

ROMP

I sure don't!

RYGEL

Hey, aren't there rules about this? Aren't you violating the prime directive?

ROMP

There are laws regarding time travel, but I am within them.

RYGEL

You mean you can just go dicking around with the time line?

ROMP

But I'm not dicking around with anything. That's the thing about time: everything that's going to happen has already happened.

Mika, Rygel and Shelley just stare at Romp.

ROMP

Nutty, right?

MIKA

Why is it so important that this guy not move in to the co-op?

ROMP

Mr. Body. Take my word, trouble follows him where ever he goes.

SHELLEY

Mr. Body?

ROMP

Yes.

SHELLEY

You, a time traveler, are here to stop Mr. Body from moving in next to my mom.

ROMP

You got it!

Shelley rises.

SHELLEY  
Can I talk to you outside, Romp?

ROMP  
Sure!

Shelley walks to the front door, holds it open for Romp who exits, then shuts the door on him. Shelley turns away. Knock, knock. Shelley opens the door to Romp.

ROMP  
I can see this is a lot to process.

SHELLEY  
Yes, a lot of cuckoo. I'm not interested in what you're selling.

ROMP  
Thanks for the donuts.

Shelley shuts the door on Romp, heads back to the living room.

SHELLEY  
(to Mika)  
And you let him in.

MIKA  
I'm sorry, he just seemed so nice.

SHELLEY  
He did. That's how they get you.

RYGEL  
I liked him.

Knock knock. Shelley begrudgingly returns to the door.

SHELLEY  
Go away, Romp.

Shelley opens the door. A tall, buff, humanoid...THING? with a squid-like head, tentacles flowing like hair, stands there. Shelley, wide-eyed, shuts the door.

SHELLEY  
Guys, hey guys? Mika!

Mika comes over to the door.

SHELLEY

Look through the peep hole.

Mika does, jumps back.

MIKA

Cthulhu!

Rygel joins in, looks through the peep hole.

RYGEL

Shit! What if he turns invisible?

MIKA

Maybe he'll just go away.

The three wait. Knock knock. Rygel disappears in the kitchen, quickly returns with a glass of water.

RYGEL

I got this.

Rygel opens the door, throws the glass of water on the Thing. The Thing just stands there, wet. Shelley closes the door.

SHELLEY

Idiot!

RYGEL

Sorry, I thought it would work.

They hear thuds and rustling from outside the door. Rygel cautiously opens the door to see Romp standing above an unconscious Thing.

ROMP

The Smeaks found me. We should go.

Rygel hastily goes into the hall with Romp, Mika turns to grab her hat and stripped scarf.

SHELLEY

You're just going to trust this guy?

MIKA

I'm going to go with the guy who just took down Diva Plavalaguna.

Mika hands Shelley her coat.

MIKA (CON'T)

Allons-y!

Mika exits, Shelley follows.

EXT. SHELLEY'S APARTMENT BUILDING-DAY

Romp, Shelley, Mika and Rygel exit Shelley's brick apartment building. Romp motions for them to duck around the corner in an alley.

ROMP

Where there's one Smeak, there are many.

SHELLEY

What are those things?

ROMP

Smeaks.

SHELLEY

Oh, okay then.

ROMP

Wait here, I'll be back.

Romp runs off down the street, around a corner.

SHELLEY

Not how I thought I was going to spend my morning.

MIKA

I know, this is so exciting!

SHELLEY

Oof, I shouldn't have eaten so many donuts.

RYGEL

Hey.

MIKA

Yeah, you're going to sugar crash hard later.

RYGEL

Hey!

Rygel points to a Smeak in a trench coat and hat sitting on a bench down the street. He pretends to read the paper.

SHELLEY

Why doesn't anyone notice Davy Jones reading the paper?

RYGEL

Do you think he's watching us?

The Smeak calmly puts down the paper, stands and walks in the direction of the three.

MIKA

Where's Romp?

A sketchy white van with no back windows pulls up in front of the three. The driver's window goes down, Romp sticks his head out, all smiles.

ROMP

I stole this! Get in!

SHELLEY

Why don't I find you super creepy?

The three get into the van, Romp speeds away.

INT. VAN-DAY

Romp drives the van, Shelley sits shotgun and Rygel and Mika sit in the back, peering between the two front seats.

SHELLEY

I mean, they're definitely aliens though, right? Please tell me that's not the future of plastic surgery.

ROMP

What's that?

SHELLEY

Never mind.

ROMP

The Smeaks are aliens and allies. They keep track of the time line. They're generally good guys, unless you do something they don't like.

MIKA

Like go after Mr. Body.

Rygel pokes around the miscellaneous stuff sliding around the back of the van. He picks up a squeaky toy.

RYGEL  
Aww, maybe this was a van for  
puppies.

MIKA  
Don't touch that, you don't know  
where it's been.

SHELLEY  
What's the deal with that  
anyway? What do you have against  
Mr. Body?

ROMP  
It's kind of a bummer, can't we  
talk about something else?

SHELLEY  
No!

Rygel picks up a glittery baton.

RYGEL  
Ooh, shiny!

MIKA  
Seriously, Ry. The germs. Go  
ahead, Romp.

ROMP  
Okay. When I tell you that Mr.  
Body is someone you don't want in  
your mother's building, I'm  
underselling his worst qualities by  
an unquantifiable amount.

As Romp talks, we see a montage of Mr. Body.

MONTAGE-MR. BODY

-MR. BODY, 28, who looks like he fell out of a cologne ad,  
all muscles and a great head of hair, stares up at a mirror  
above his bed and waves.

-Mr. Body puts on an expensive suit and winks at himself in  
the mirror.

-Mr. Body walks by a musician playing on the street and  
takes money out of his open guitar case.

-Mr. Body walks through a park and stops to kick a duck.

-Mr. Body flicks a cigarette butt at a pug in a hoodie.

Over this,

ROMP

His arrogance is overwhelming and his love for himself is only matched by his inability to exhibit even the smallest form of compassion for his fellow man. His skill for stealing from everyone around him would almost be impressive if it weren't so despicable. He is a negative force, destroying goodness and decency with every step he takes. Stopping his move to Hammond Towers would derail his ascent to power just enough to slow his ability to do harm.

INT. VAN-DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Shelley, Rygel and Mika sit in rapt attention as Romp finishes talking about Mr. Body.

ROMP

That's why I need your help.

SHELLEY

It would really make that much of a difference?

ROMP

Of course!

SHELLEY

It's just...don't aliens usually give humans the speech about how tiny and insignificant we are?

ROMP

I'm not an alien, I'm from the future! And you are small, tiny, insanely minute in the grand scheme of things, but that doesn't mean your small actions don't have huge repercussions.

RYGEL

So, we're specs of dust who could really fuck things up?



ROMP

Yes!

MIKA

That's going to be my new mantra.

SHELLEY

Take a right at the next light. I guess I'm going to have a lunch date with my mom.

ROMP

Really? Excellent! I'll explain my plan on the way.

SHELLEY

But seriously, does anyone have a Tums or something?

MIKA

The donuts?

SHELLEY

No, seeing my mother.

RYGEL

Check the glove compartment.

Shelley opens the glove compartment, something vibrates. Romp is all smiles.

ROMP

That's not an antacid!

EXT. ALLEY-DAY

Romp pulls the van into an empty alley between two brick buildings.

INT. VAN-DAY

Romp turns the van off and faces the three.

SHELLEY

Her building is only one block that way.

ROMP

Perfect! Let's go over the plan again.

MIKA

We go around the back through the courtyard. There will probably be a few Smeaks there...

EXT. HAMMOND TOWERS COURTYARD-DAY

Romp, Shelley, Rygel and Mika enter the posh, fenced in courtyard. Two Smeaks stand in the middle of the yard. Rygel and Shelley each tackle one to the ground, knock them out and stand. One more Smeak pops out from the middle of a bush. Mika pops up next to him, taking him by surprise.

MIKA

Dr. Zoidberg I presume?

Mika punches the Smeak, he falls. She joins the other three and walks into the building.

MIKA (V.O)

But it's nothing we can't handle. Then, it's game on.

INT. HAMMOND TOWERS LOBBY-DAY

Romp stands in the middle of the fancy, marble floored, ornate lobby. He talks to a middle-aged MRS. THOMPSON, who holds a cat.

ROMP (V.O.)

I will engage Mrs. Thompson, one of the four board members. We will bond over our love of felines and I will casually mention that Mr. Body owns a kill shelter. I'll have her vote no problem.

INT. HAMMOND TOWERS BAR-DAY

Mika sits at a dimly lit, ritzy bar, sipping on bourbon with a jovial MR. WINTERS, 70, who wears a three piece suit.

MIKA (V.O)

I find Mr. Winters at the bar, where he usually is. I politely ask for his suggestion for good bourbon, then wait until we are a few drinks in before destroying Mr. Body's reputation.

INT. HAMMOND TOWERS ELEVATOR-DAY

Rygel stands in an elevator next to an equally tall and slender MR. PENTAW, 55.

RYGEL (V.O.)

I find Mr. Pentaw on the way up to the meeting, he always has to be at least twenty minutes early to everything. I corner him and convince him to vote against Mr. Body by any means necessary.

INT. VAN-DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Shelley et al. are still positioned in van as before.

SHELLEY

And I find my mother and convince her Mr. Body is no good.

MIKA

How are you going to do that?

SHELLEY

Don't know, I'll think of something.

ROMP

Great! Let's get going!

Rygel slides the door open and he and Mika exit the back of the van. Shelley opens her door, then stops.

SHELLEY

Hey, Romp. Why can't everyone see the Smeaks?

ROMP

People see what they want to see.

Romp leaves the van. Shelley accepts his answer, follows.

EXT. HAMMOND TOWERS COURTYARD-DAY

Romp, Rygel, Shelley and Mika march up to the courtyard, swing the gate open and enter. Just as they expected, two Smeaks wait at the back door and one lurks in a bush. Mika steps forward, excited to start the fight. Romp pulls out a tranquilizer gun and downs the Smeaks, quick and easy.

MIKA  
 Hey, I thought we were going to  
 fight! I had a line and  
 everything.

ROMP  
 You can fight me if you want!

MIKA  
 Maybe later.

SHELLEY  
 Come on.

They all head to the back door. Mika hangs back, waits  
 until she thinks no one is looking and punches one of the  
 downed Smeaks.

MIKA  
 Welcome to Earth!

Mika rushes to catch up with the others, enters the  
 building.

INT. HAMMOND TOWERS LOBBY-DAY

Romp stands in the fancy lobby talking to Mrs.  
 Thompson...who does not have a cat with her.

ROMP  
 Don't you have a cat?

MRS. THOMPSON  
 No, I put her down. Cats are  
 filthy, fussy monsters.

ROMP  
 (smiling)  
 What terrible timing!

INT. HAMMOND TOWERS BAR-DAY

Mika sits at the bar with Mr. Winters.

MR. WINTERS  
 My God, woman, it's not even  
 noon. All I can suggest at this  
 hour is a strong cup of coffee.

MIKA  
An Irish coffee?

Mr. Winters walks away.

INT. ELEVATOR

Rygel walks into the elevator with Mr. Pentaw. Rygel smiles, the doors close.

On a different floor, the doors open. Mr. Pentaw runs out, shocked and afraid.

RYGEL  
Or we could just talk!

INT. MRS. CLARK'S APARTMENT-DAY

MRS. CLARK, 60, heels, pearls and a freshly pressed suit, opens the door to let Shelley in.

MRS. CLARK  
Shelley, I wasn't expecting you this morning.

SHELLEY  
I know, I just had to see you.

MRS. CLARK  
Well, the rest of the board will be here soon, I can't chat long. I assume this about helping you find a job?

SHELLEY  
I have a job, a good one.

MRS. CLARK  
What have I said about lying, dear?

SHELLEY  
Not unless you're networking.

Mrs. Clark looks at her watch.

MRS. CLARK  
I should finish getting things ready.

SHELLEY  
I won't take long, the board is  
actually why I'm here.

MRS. CLARK  
Oh?

SHELLEY  
About this potential tenant, Mr.  
Body.

MRS. CLARK  
He is so handsome, and single you  
know.

SHELLEY  
Super. Look you can't let him move  
in here.

MRS. CLARK  
And why not?

SHELLEY  
You just can't, okay?

MRS. CLARK  
No, not okay. You're being silly.

SHELLEY  
I'm not! Trust me, mom. Don't let  
him move in.

MRS. CLARK  
I'm going to need a little more  
than that.

SHELLEY  
He's the worst, really. He's-

Knock, knock.

MRS. CLARK  
He's what?

SHELLEY  
He's...

Knock, knock. Mrs. Clark moves towards the door.

SHELLEY  
He's new money!

Mrs. Clark stops in her tracks, turns toward Shelley, who  
just smiles.

EXT. HAMMOND TOWERS COURTYARD-DAY

Romp, Mika and Rygel sit at a wrought iron table with an unconscious Smeak at their feet. Shelley joins them.

RYGEL

I think I'm a catch.

ROMP

Maybe it was your delivery.

MIKA

(to Shelley)

How did you do?

SHELLEY

There's no way Mr. Body will be moving into this building.

MIKA

Yeah you did!

Mika and Shelley high five.

ROMP

Outstanding! Well done, Shelley.

RYGEL

And the world is safe for one more night.

SHELLEY

So, what'd we prevent, Romp? Massive layoffs? Financial collapse? Nuclear war?

ROMP

Mr. Body is the great-great-great-grandfather of my roommate. This will really tick him off!

The three stare at Romp.

SHELLEY

We just spent the morning taking part in a temporal prank?

ROMP

Maybe! Thanks everybody!

Romp trots away happily. The Smeak groggily sits up.

MIKA

Hey. Hey!

SMEAK

What happened?

SHELLEY

If you're looking for Romp, you just missed him.

SMEAK

Who's Romp?

SHELLEY

The guy messing with Mr. Body, the guy you're trying to catch?

SMEAK

Is it March 2045?

SHELLEY

No, it's May 2016.

SMEAK

Oh, boy.

FADE OUT.