

Motivationless Speaker - Tech Script
by
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CUE 1: TRANSITION MUSIC: NO SUNLIGHT BY DEATHCAB FOR CUTIE
CUE 2: END TRANSMISSION MUSIC / LIGHTS UP

LIGHT'S COME UP TO A PERSON SITTING IN A CHAIR. THEY ARE ON THE PHONE, PURPOSELY TRYING TO HIDE THEIR FACE FROM THE CROWD. AFTER WAITING FOR THE AUDIENCE TO QUIET DOWN, THE PERSON BEGINS IN A STAGE WHISPER.

SPEAKER

(to the side into their phone) There is a hold on my check. (pause) What the hell do you mean you'll release it when I'm done? That's not the contract! (pause) You know what? This is my last gig. My friggin' retirement man, and you're screwing me over. (pause) Pay on performance? (pause) Ok boss. I know what the contract says. You'll get you're performance in spades. I'm gonna deliver my fucking swan song, and when I'm done, you'll release that hold or my lawyer will make sure my retirement is several orders of magnitude more epic. Clear?! Good. I'm here now, so I'm just going to get up and get it done.

The person hangs up the phone. And looks out towards the audience.

SPEAKER

Alex, the lights please.

CUE 3: LIGHTS DOWN / 5 SECOND BLACKOUT
CUE 4: LIGHTS UP / PLAY MSBACKGROUND.MP3

When the lights come back up, the person standing center stage and is looking down at the ground. As soon as the lights are fully up and the music hits, the person springs to action in the style of your stereotypical motivational speaker. Throughout, the speaker will dart back and forth across the stage, point at the audience, make wild hand gestures. If a headset mic can be used, all the better.

SPEAKER

YOU! AND YOU! AND YOU! Get Motivated!

Speaker moves and points aggressively, ending back at center stage.

SPEAKER

I'm Clint Smith-Johnson-Parker, and today, we're going to talk about why you matter here at WORK!

Speaker takes 3 laps around the stage screaming and pointing at things.

SPEAKER

You Matter, and you Matter, and YOU matter...

Speaker returns to center stage.

SPEAKER

...Sort of. I am contractually obligated to come up here and dance like a rattlesnake hopped up on coke in the hopes that when we're through you'll go back to your cubical prisons and pump out the work product at a pace that exceeds what you lazy shits were accomplishing before arriving at this conference.

Crosses to stage left.

SPEAKER

No matter what, I want you to feel like you are a part of a family. A work family. I won't tell you it's not an overbearing, soul sucking, abusive family, because I've never spent one second inhabiting your actual duties or experience. Instead, the obligation to make the workplace like a family is on you, the workers. You might be asking yourself "Hey, Clint SJP? Why does the hired help have the responsibility to create a positive atmosphere while the CEO makes more than everyone in this room combined?"

Crosses back to Center.

SPEAKER

Well, I'll tell you. Mommy and Daddy executive don't have time for your nonsense. Your not just being paid to do your job! Oh my no. You're being paid to keep the organization together and functioning like a gaggle of HR professionals. Is that pay sufficient for that kind of extra baggage? Who cares, you already agreed to your salary? It's on you to prove you're worth more. Why should ownership and management pay attention to their employees and foster their growth when they can pay ME, a professional, to come here and convince you that if you're not a superstar, career driven workaholic, that you'll always be viewed as lesser and unmotivated.

Moves to stage right.

SPEAKER

Just think of some of the extra perks you could have if they weren't paying me to come here and convince you buy back in to the system that is eating your will to live. Remember, you are the master of your own destiny. If you want to get ahead, you need to learn how to work the system. Don't forget to narc on your coworkers whenever you see joy. Make sure you eliminate everything that could potentially be offensive to anyone, and hide your personality. Even if the workplace isn't grey, it should feel grey, otherwise you're doing it wrong.

Speaker finds a person in the audience and engages them.

SPEAKER

What is your name?

AUDIENCE PLANT 1

Jamie Carmichael

SPEAKER

Hi Jamie. And what do you do?

AUDIENCE PLANT 1

I'm in Marketing.

Speaker Returns to Center

SPEAKER

"Jamie Carmichael"... EXPENDABLE

Finds a new victim quickly.

SPEAKER

And your name?

AUDIENCE PLANT 2

Dana Brunswick I.....

SPEAKER

...EXPENDABLE!!

Moves to stage left.

SPEAKER

I don't even need to know their name or what they do to know that they are utterly replaceable. How is that motivating you ask?

Moves to stage right.

SPEAKER

Because without a job, you're nothing but a parasite on society. A moocher, a failure. Unlovable. If you're not able to make a living, your family will starve, or get sick, or both. Do you like your house, apartment, car, insurance?! Better be here at 8am tomorrow ready to ask "HOW HIGH??!"

Speaker hops frantically back to center.

SPEAKER

In conclusion, don't ever forget simply showing up to work and doing your job for the agreed upon pay is wrong and makes you a garbage human. You need to be 'motivated' to make the company profits you'll never benefit from. You need to be doing the work of the job you want in addition to your old job if you want to be considered for advancement. You don't get an office, because it is expensive, and you aren't worthy of privacy. But stay motivated! If you work hard enough, and screw over enough people, and spend enough of your own money on professional development, you can someday reach the top. Odds are though, you're not going anywhere fast. So since you're stuck here anyways, and you only get one life, you might as well push yourself to the limit everyday for people who could care less and then be happy dying in obscurity. That above all, is the American Way! Thank you all!

Speaker shoots some finger guns, proceeds to exit stage through a stage door. On the way out the speaker pulls out their phone to make a call.

CUE 5: END BACKGROUND MUSIC

SPEAKER

Hi, It's JSP. I'm through with my talk to the Plebs. Make sure my check clears.

Speaker fully exits, closing the door behind him.

CUE 6: LIGHTS DOWN / BEGIN TRANSITION MUSIC