

Hench

by
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INT WORKSHOP - DAY

DAN WELLS (34) sits at his desk, tinkering with his latest TOY. His desk is strewn with all manner of technical gizmos. As he sits, entranced in his mechanical repair, CHARLIE HAYWARD, a human mountain, a terrifying gorilla (31) approaches Dan from behind until he is standing over him. Dan continues at his work, oblivious. As Dan works and Charlie stands silently, PHILLIP 'PIP' DEBONAIRE (47) enters the door Charlie came through, as quiet as a mouse he comes to rest next to the gargantuan Charlie. He stands quietly for a beat.

PIP

Dan!

Dan jumps at the noise and turns around. He jumps again once he sees Charlie looming over him, falling off his chair and crashing to the ground.

CHARLIE

(Sweetly apologetic)

Sorry mate.

Charlie grabs Dan under the arms and hoists him easily up to a standing position.

DAN

Thanks Charlie. Mr. Debonaire.
Hello sir. What can I do for you?

PIP

I told you Dan, call me Pip.

DAN

Of course, er, Pip.

PIP

I just came down to say well done on that last project. Delivered on time, within budget and a marvellous piece of craftsmanship.

DAN

I'm glad it met your approval...
Pip.

PIP

Sure did. (beat) That trap door of yours worked excellently. Dumped that poor MI6 man right into the shark tank. Oh Dan, the look on his

(MORE)

CONTINUED:

PIP (cont'd)
face was priceless. Until the shark
ate it...

DAN
Well it was your idea, sir. I just
put these things together.

PIP
Tish and pish. You are an
engineering genius Dan. I don't
know where I would be without you.
Probably not on the verge of global
domination, that's for sure. And on
that note, I have a present for
you...

Pip motions to Charlie, who pulls a WATCH out of his pocket,
and passes it to Pip.

PIP (cont'd)
Just a small token of my gratitude.

Pip hands the watch to Dan.

DAN
I don't know what to say sir. I'm
touched. Thank you very much.

Dan handles the watch.

DAN (cont'd)
Looks expensive.

PIP
Yes, probably was. You know what
these spy agencies are like. Always
happy to spend our taxes on
trinkets for their silly little
agents. (beat) The shark couldn't
digest it. At least you know its
waterproof. And sharkproof. Hahaha.

Dan fiddles with the watch, pressing buttons. Suddenly a
laser shoots out and hits a MUG on Dan's table, SMASHING it.

PIP (cont'd)
Oh yeah. Should have told you about
that. There is a laser built in.
The little blighter tried to hurt
my dear Flossie with it...

DAN
Flossie?

CONTINUED:

PIP

My shark, Dan. You don't name your sharks?

DAN

I don't own any sharks sir.

PIP

Well...

Pip taps his nose and winks...

PIP (cont'd)

...we'll have to do something about that at the year-end bonuses won't we. Anyway, that spy, James, I think his name was, bastard, tried to shoot Flossie with it. Nicked her Dorsal fin. She wasn't very happy. Think that's why she ate him groin first...

Pip stoops to pick up the smashed mug.

PIP (cont'd)

Ah, you're a fan of my football team, the Debonaire Devils!

DAN

We all are sir, you write it into our contracts.

PIP

Great stuff. Champions League final tomorrow. Playing some Spanish fellows. Was going to go, but the final is in Paris, and I'm banned from France ever since we tried to assassinate Gerard Depardieu. Remember?

DAN

Before my time sir.

PIP

Ah, great days. Anyway. I'm going to be watching the game at my place then. I know, why don't you pop over. A special thank you for all your hard work dealing with these wretched government agents. A couple of regular joes having a couple of beers watching a football

(MORE)

CONTINUED:

PIP (cont'd)
game, now that's a Saturday
night...

DAN
Well actually I'm busy tomor...

PIP
Great, that's settled. Come round
early evening.

Pip's MOBILE rings in his pocket. He pulls it out and answers. Listening to the other end his face goes from genial through anger to pure rage...

PIP (cont'd)
Well, tell Barack that if that
trillion isn't in my Cayman account
by midnight then Sasha and Malia's
kittens will make some very sweet
and slightly cannibalistic entrees
for my pride of tigers...

Pip storms out. Dan turns to Charlie...

DAN
Bloody hell Charlie. I'm supposed
to be going to Becky's sister's
mother's husband's son's 25th
birthday tomorrow. I can't miss
that.

CHARLIE
Well, I wouldn't advise standing up
Mr. Debonaire Dan. Remember when
Paul from accounts cancelled on
him?

DAN
Yeah, his head is still on that
pike in the ornamental garden. And
Becky can't stand Mr. Debonaire so
when she finds out I blowing her
off for him she is going to be
livid.

CHARLIE
Didn't she tell him he can stick
his chocolate croissants up his
arse and the annual Wives meet
Megalomaniacs Breakfast Buffet this
year?

CONTINUED:

DAN

No, that was Rupert Murdoch.

CHARLIE

(confused)

Strange of Rupert to talk to Mr. Debonaire like that. Why don't you say you are coming to Muay Thai with me...

Charlie does some Karate moves...

CHARLIE (cont'd)

...she won't mind that.

DAN

My Thai? Isn't that a drink. Or what Pip calls the asian girl he keeps in his dungeon... No, no, I'll just tell her the truth. Besides the game will be over in time for the party, just as long as it doesn't go to extra-time and penalties...

Pip pops his head back round the door...

PIP

Charlie. Come on. I can't put all these kittens in the blender myself. See you tomorrow Dan.

INT. DAN'S HOUSE - EVENING

BECKY WELLS (32) stands in the kitchen baking an exquisite cake for her sister's mother's husband's son's 25th birthday. Unhappy. Dan is sheepish.

BECKY

Your bloody boss again. I should call him up and give him a piece of my mind.

DAN

I don't think that's such a good idea sweetheart.

BECKY

This isn't the first time he has done this Dan. Remember when we had to cancel our wedding anniversary

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BECKY (cont'd)
weekend just because some idiot had cut the wires to some bomb you had engineered. You had to go in on a Saturday night to fix it.

DAN
I got overtime.

BECKY
And when we had Charlie and Sam over for dinner. Supposed to be a nice couples evening but ended up being just me and Sam watching The Notebook cos you two were called away for nothing.

DAN
Ninjas were attacking the compound.

BECKY
Why don't you ever stand up to him.

DAN
The last person to stand up to him had an air-force. And they've still only found one of his testicles. Rumour has it, the other is in the Albert...

BECKY
I don't care Dan. I've put a lot of work into this party. I'm baking this exquisite cake, and making streamers and I've booked DJ Jazzy Jack and obviously I booked Disco Dave and his marvelous light show because...

DAN
...because everyone knows your sister's mother's husband's son loves a light show.

BECKY
Exactly. So you better make it to that party, Dan. Otherwise your balls will also be scattered to concert halls around Britain. And far less prestigious ones. I'm thinking Hull City Hall. Or The Wolverhampton Civic Centre.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAN

Of course I am not going to miss it
darling...

BECKY

Good. And tell your boss from me
that if he ruin's another weekend
of mine they'll never find his
testicles.

INT. PIP'S VOLCANIC LAIR - EVENING

Sofa in front of a large TV. Beers on the table.

PIP

Dan! Glad you could make it. Game's
just about to start. Pop yourself
down. Grab a beer.

DAN

Thanks. Great place you've got
here. Didn't know there were any
volcanoes in Hampstead.

PIP

There weren't. Shipped it in from
Iceland. Love it. All mod cons.
Very green too. Heated by
geothermal, see all the lava pools.

Pip ponders for a second...

PIP (cont'd)

Maybe we could make a booby-trap
with them, yeah? Let's discuss that
at the Monday/Friday.

DAN

Look, er, Pip. I can stay for most
of the game, but have to leave...

PIP

Here come the teams. Designed those
kits myself. The players aren't so
keen on Magenta onesies but I think
they look snazzy.

DAN

Classy. So, if it goes to extra-
time, I'll have to...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PIP

If it goes to extra-time, we'll have a real game on our hands. Now Dan. Stand. National Anthem time. (sings) ...SEND HER VICTORIOUS, HAPPY AND GLORIOUS...

INT. PIP'S VOLCANIC LAIR - LATER

COMMENTATOR (O.S.)

Going into the final five minutes of normal time now Alan. Looks close. Probably going to penalties this one. And both teams have a 100% penalty record so that could go on forever...

Dan starts to fret. Looks at his watch.

PIP

You seem really pleased with that watch, Dan.

DAN

Yes Pip, it's really great. Look, there is somewhere I have...

PIP

Great game, hey? I know, why don't we get some more beers in and order Pizzas or something. Make a night of it yeah...

DAN

Well...

PIP

Great!

Pip reaches to the table for his mobile phone. Dan sits back and SIGHS. Resigned to his fate, he points at the match...

DAN

I don't know why your manager insists on playing Rooney up front on his own. Better to have Messi up there, play Rooney in the hole...

PIP

You think?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Pip picks up his mobile and dials...

COMMENTATOR (O.S.)

Well Alan, this is a new one on me. The manager seems to be taking a phone call while in the dugout.

PIP

Roberto. Pip here. Why isn't Messi playing? (beat) I don't care about the midget's hamstrings. We'll buy him new ones.

Pip starts to get angry again...

PIP (cont'd)

What do you mean, no? No, is not a word I know, Roberto! You know some words I do know Roberto? Fired is one of them. Others are puppies, skinned, and new moccasins.

COMMENTATOR (O.S.)

I don't believe it Alan, the manager has thrown his phone on to the pitch and stormed off! Whisking up his lucky puppies as he goes. I think he might have been sacked!

Pip leans over to Dan...

PIP

What did you say we should do Dan?

DAN

Er, put Messi on, pull Rooney back. Maybe try a 4-2-3-1.

COMMENTATOR (O.S.)

Rooney is picking up the phone...

PIP

Wayne. Is that you? Look get Messi on and up front. Understand? Give me one grunt for yes, two grunts for no.

A single GRUNT comes over the phone.

PIP (cont'd)

Great!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COMMENTATOR (O.S.)
Messi is coming on for these final
few minutes...

**END OF PART ONE ** CLIFFHANGER **

INT. PARTY - NIGHT

Becky stands alone at the party, crying. Dan comes in very
excited...

DAN
Becky! It was amazing. Pip fired
his manager and took my advice and
Messi came on with two minutes to
go and scored 10 goals!

BECKY
(sobbing)
Yeah, Dan...

DAN
...and then Rooney and Messi both
phoned me up and said how great I
was and that I was the greatest
football manager ever...

BECKY
Yeah, Dan...

DAN
...and my mum said all those years
playing Champ manager were a waste.
Pah. And then Pip said I could have
my choice of any of his yachts and
we could stay at his lake house in
Tuscany, but not to go swimming in
the lake for some reason and...

BECKY
Dan!

DAN
What is it sweetheart? Where's the
music? Why is your sister's
mother's husband's son crying? Why
are you crying?

BECKY
It's all ruined Dan. The party is
ruined. I baked that exquisite
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BECKY (cont'd)
cake, and made all these streamers
and booked DJ Jazzy Jack and they
were all great, but Disco Dave and
his marvelous light show...

DAN
What about him? Where is he?
Everyone knows your sister's
mother's husband's son loves a
light show...

BECKY
He hasn't showed. And without a
light show, there ain't no party...

Dan hugs Becky. Then an idea beckons and a smile broadens on
his face. He points at his watch...

DAN
I've got your party right here
baby. Courtesy of MI6, Pip and
Flossie... Hit it Jazzy Jack!

Dan hits the buttons on his watch and lasers light up the
room. The music kicks in and Becky and Dan dance...

THE END