

I'M BUSY, SO DON'T BOTHER ME (V4)

By Cynthia Via 02/27/2020

INT. OFFICE - DAY.

RICHARD approaches MAGGIE who is busy completing an economic renewal report for local communities, while also juggling other work. RICHARD wants to bring MAGGIE to her supervisor, NATE. Maggie feels hesitant about sitting in a room with these two men.

RICHARD

Nate wants to talk to you in his office. Can you follow me?

MAGGIE

Why? Uhh, sure. I'm kind of in the middle—

RICHARD

It won't take long.

MAGGIE slowly gets up while looking at her screen, the folders on her desk. Richard walks ahead with his head down, giggling behind her. He opens the door for Maggie.

NATE

Hi Maggie, sit down please. I brought you here today to lay down some ground rules. Nothing fancy.

MAGGIE

Ok.

NATE

As the supervisor there are certain things I have to keep track of and report back to the higher-ups. Yesterday, I wanted you to take the Inner Animal Workplace Training, and your response was inappropriate. Now, do you remember what you said?

MAGGIE

I said, I was busy, and also confused. I'm actually scared to ask what the Inner Animal Training entails.

NATE

See, that right there is unacceptable.

When your supervisor asks you to do something, there shouldn't be any hesitancy on your part. The Inner Animal Training was actually created as a way to bridge the maturity gap between males and females.

MAGGIE

Ok. I guess I'll just add that to my never-ending list (Maggie takes out her notepad) As I was trying to explain yesterday, I have a deadline for-

NATE

Yes I know, I shouldn't of cut you off and raised my finger at you to shut you up. That was rude of me-unbecoming really, and I do apologize, but when there's a call to complete a training, you have to drop everything!

MAGGIE

I'm not the one who needs this. The other day Richard told me, "I was way in over my head" for simply teaching someone how to use the scanner. And, now the scanner has magically disappeared.

RICHARD

Are you implying something?

MAGGIE

Yea... that you stoled it.

RICHARD

Your attempt at staining my reputation with this outlandish claim is beneath you.

MAGGIE looks intently at Richard as if trying to laser off his face.

MAGGIE

Ok, well, every week something from my desk disappears. Last week, it was my green sweater, and now I'm always cold!

RICHARD

Green is my least favorite color.
Reminds me of grass.

NATE

Now, now. Some people have a
proclivity to be hysterical. It may
just be the true nature of the gender.
Like my mother always said, "women are
better acclimated for the home."
Things get too complicated in the
world.

MAGGIE mimicks the voice of a child.

MAGGIE

Ohh, look at me I'm a child, who
doesn't understand the world, and I
need you to tell me how it works!

NATE raises his hand to gesture to Richard.

NATE

Richard here, who is leading this
effort, sent an email to all staff
explaining the training activity.

RICHARD

The activity is meant to inspire
camaraderie and honesty between the
sexes. We'll each pick an animal and
personify it, and each person has to
respect that animal based on its
biological nature. We'll have markers,
straws, and plates so each person can
create their own mask. I thought of it
myself, but I consulted with human
resource, and they gave it the-go-
ahead!

MAGGIE looks upset and checks her phone to notice several
text messages from her project manager, WENDY.

NATE

Is that a smile I'm sensing, Maggie?

MAGGIE

I actually want to throw up. Wendy
just texted me, to meet her now!