

Handicapped John

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Shallow Pals Inc. "Pilot Episode"

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John tries reaching in to pull it out but slips and falls on his ass. Water splashes all over the floor.

Rushing out of the handicap stall John stops behind Janus for a moment considering what he should do next. He decides to help the man up but just as he leans in, Janus shrieks;

JANUS

Your days here will never be the same when I'm through with you!

John begins to rethink his decision, leaning back a little.

JANUS (CONT'D)

I've got spies all over this company! And when I catch you, your last days here will be hell!

John bolts for the bathroom door. Janus's words fade into the distance.

JANUS (CONT'D)

Do you hear hear me? Hell!! I will catch you! You will be brought down!

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INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE THE BATHROOM-CONTINUOUS

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John holds his hands to his heart which races like he's just run a marathon. His armpits are sweaty and his hair is ruffled. His eyes scream fear.

He tries to casually walk back to his desk, passing co-workers along the way.

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INT. JOHN AND LEVI'S CUBICAL - CONTINUOUS

21

John backs into the cubical making sure he wasn't followed.

LEVI

So, how was the dump?

Startled, John jumps and bursts out with a quick "ah!"

JOHN

(frazzled)

What dump? Nothing. I mean...

BEAT.

John is trying to relax now.

(CONTINUED)

JOHN  
...it was fine. Really,  
fine. Nothing to report.

LEVI  
You alright, John?

JOHN  
Yeah, fine. What makes you think  
something happened?

LEVI  
Well your ankles are wet and your  
left eye keeps twitching.

A close up of John's face reveals the nervous twitch.

JOHN  
No. It was great, of course.

Behind John, two paramedics wheeling a stretcher go whizzing  
by down the hall.

LEVI  
Did you see that?

JOHN  
See what?

Levi wheels his office chair over to the cubical's  
entrance. They both peek out of the cubical and watch the  
paramedics turn the corner towards the bathroom.

LEVI  
Are they heading to the bathroom?

JOHN  
Ummm... Ok, so this is going to  
sound bad, but you see Janus was  
there.. and he was going  
crazy right.. trying to bust in on  
me in the bathroom. I guess he  
slipped going into one of the other  
stalls.

LEVI  
And you just left him there?

JOHN  
It's more complicated than that  
Levi. He had a weapon!

(CONTINUED)

LEVI  
A weapon?!

JOHN  
Well a walker, but a dangerous one  
with projectile tennis balls on the  
ends!

Levi clearly doesn't believe John.

LEVI  
You left your handicapped boss just  
laying on the ground!? John, what  
is wrong with you?

JOHN  
I didn't realize he was  
handicapped. That guy's gonna kill  
me. I'm dead.

People are heard gasping in the hallway. John and Levi poke  
their heads over the cubicle wall.

22 INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE JOHN AND LEVI'S CUBICAL - CONTINUOUS 22

Two paramedics wheel out Janus strapped face down.

As he goes past the various employees they each react to the  
smell, which now emanates throughout the office. Gilbert  
rises from behind a cubicle. One employees passes out on to  
the floor.

When the paramedics go by, John is as stiff as a board, eyes  
wide open.

JANUS  
Stop!

The paramedics stop pushing the stretcher.

Gilbert rises from behind his cubicle.

GILBERT  
(worried)  
Uncle Janus?!

JANUS  
John , get over here!

John, petrified, looks to Levi. Levi, scared for John,  
shrugs his shoulders, at a loss for words. John slowly makes  
his way towards Janus.

(CONTINUED)

JANUS

John, I've seen you're ambition regarding P.E.W.P. The future of this company rests in the hands of people like you. Now reach into my back pocket.

John, unsettled, looks back at Levi. John makes his way towards Janus's back pocket. He reaches in and pulls out a soaking wet gold star.

JANUS

Tell me when you're holding it. Do you have it yet?

JOHN

Oh my god.

Campbell wanders in from his office.

JANUS

With this star comes great responsibility. You'll never go unnoticed here again.

John looks at Campbell, who is in shock.

Levi's jaw drops.

JANUS (CONT'D)

(to paramedics)

Now take me away.

Janus is wheeled out of the office as the employees of Shallow Pals Inc. look on. John, Levi and Kara watch and take in the ramifications of the moment.

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INT. OFFICE HALLWAY - LATER

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John is walking through the halls. He gets into the elevator.

JOHN(V.O)

Am I scared? No. I have no reason to be. Just had an off day, thats all. My routine is still at an adolescent stage. And there is more work to be done here.

INSERT: Full screen title card: "Handicapped John."