

A WORK THING

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - NIGHT

Behind a window overlooking the streets outside the office building, BEN (late 20s, in businessmen attire yet looks a mess) stares out into the unknown. COMPLETELY zoned out.

ZOOM IN on Ben as *EERIE* and *MYSTERIOUS* instrumental plays.

EVELYN (O.S.)
We're in trouble.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING, CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A WIDE SHOT reveals the DARK conference room.

EVELYN (also late 20s, with a powerful presence) STORMS into the room.

She places her purse down, and stands next to Ben.

EVELYN
Hey!
(snaps her fingers)
Look at me.

Ben turns his head slowly to look at Evelyn while she puts the cup and her purse down.

BEN
What *does* Christopher know anyway?

EVELYN
All he knows is you and me are having an affair. It's what he *has* that's the problem--

BEN
What does he have?

EVELYN
He has a video of us.

BEN
Of what?

EVELYN
Of us outside Tony's.

BEN
So? We could just say we were
getting food.

EVELYN
Did you forget what we did in that
alleyway?

Ben doesn't respond.

BEN
Why don't we just get rid of him?

EVELYN
How?

BEN
Get him fired... frame him... kill
him.

EVELYN
Wow.

BEN
Well did you ask him what he wants?

EVELYN
He wants you to resign... and...
(genuine)
I think you should.

BEN
That's not happening.

EVELYN
Ben, let's be honest, you suck at
your job!

BEN
What? I do not!

EVELYN
You never make it to meetings, you
spend half the time in the break
room, your negotiating tactics are
the worst--

BEN
I thought you said I was a master
at negotiating.

EVELYN
Ben.

BEN
I'm not quitting!

EVELYN
Do you understand what's gonna happen to US when my husband finds out? Not only will he fire us, since, he's the president of the company... but he will do *everything* possible to ruin our lives FOREVER.

BEN
Then YOU quit. You have NO idea what it's taken me to get where I am today. I rather die before giving up the job of a lifetime. I'll talk to him. I WILL fix this.

EVELYN
You're so unbelievable, it's kind of charming. No wonder I messed around with you.

BEN
(raising his voice)
I'm his best friend--

EVELYN
You WERE his best friend! Stop being delusional, you fucking idiot.

Ben starts pacing back and forth. Evelyn holds her face in her hands, stressed out.

EVELYN (CONT'D)
It's such a shame this is what it's come to.

BEN
I agree.

EVELYN
(not convinced)
Yeah, right.

There's silence for a moment.

BEN
(genuine)
You know, I always wondered how a real relationship would've looked like for us.

Evelyn turns to look at Ben, *confused*.

BEN (CONT'D)

We wouldn't have had to meet up in secret all the time. We could've just walked together, worked together.

EVELYN

(complaining, not
reminiscing)

We wouldn't have been late to all those meetings and actually got work done.

Ben misreads her comment as "flirting".

BEN

I know it's going to hurt, but I think I know what needs to be done. This job is everything to me, but, maybe I need to learn to let go and live the *life* I've always wanted.

This is it. Evelyn's won.

EVELYN

Ben... you have no idea how much this means to me. I promise, I'll do everything I can to help you get back on your feet after you resign--

BEN

Let's run away together.

Evelyn freezes.

BEN (CONT'D)

Forget everything and everyone here. Let's let our **love** guide our future.

Evelyn doesn't know what to say. She can't believe it.

She grabs her purse, and starts walking away, slowly.

EVELYN

I'm... I-- I'm done. Let's just do nothing.

BEN

What? Nothing?

EVELYN

Nothing.

BEN

Don't you want to be together? I thought you would want that.

EVELYN

I guess we can just
(mocking Ben)
"confess our love in front of the whole office".

Ben can't believe it.

BEN

Fine.

Before heading out the door, Evelyn turns around and takes out a PREGNANCY TEST from her purse and holds it up.

EVELYN

By the way, congrats...

She throws the pregnancy test at Ben.

He catches it, unsure of what it is.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

You're gonna be a dad.

Ben turns it around to inspect it, there's a sense of joy in him.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

(walking out the door)
See you in court... or hell,
wherever we end up.

Evelyn shuts the door behind her, leaving Ben alone in the room.

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

ZOOM OUT of Ben holding the test, as a smile sneaks through.

He begins to take it all in, disturbingly happy of the mess around him.

CUT TO BLACK.