

GAG GIFT

by

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FADE IN

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

A glass office park building reflects the world around it. The weather is sunny, birds sing in nearby trees, people are going in and out the main door.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - HALLWAY

BARRY (male, 30s) in a white shirt and thin strip of a black tie, moves hurriedly through an office hallway barely avoiding collisions with other employees.

He stops at a door. Looking nervous he reaches to knock, but pauses for a moment.

OFFICE

The office is that of someone who gets things done. Laptop on desk, color coded notes fill a white board in the background.

EDWARD (male, 40s), also wearing a white shirt but a wide colorful tie that's loosened, sits reclining, rocking slightly, as he reads though a printed report from a stack.

There's an urgent KNOCKING at the door. Without looking up, Edward rocks forward in his chair.

EDWARD

Come--

The door opens quickly. Barry juts his head in with a worried look.

EDWARD (CONT'D)

--in.

BARRY

(hurried)

Execs from the Mishishu Corp are on their way here.

Edward furrows his brow as he leans forward to leaf through his planner. Stopping at a page he looks up at Barry.

EDWARD

They're not scheduled till next week.

Barry's mouth hangs open as he nods.

BARRY

(stuttering at first)

I... I... I know. They're on their way through from Chicago and have a long layaway. They want to see the current draft of the proposal.

EDWARD

Amy's working on it. Talk to her...

Again, Barry's mouth hangs open, nodding, which changes to shaking, trying to get the words out.

BARRY

Shhhe's scheduled off today.
Personal day.

Edward straightens in his chair. A serious look replaces his previously confident expression.

Edward glances past Barry out the door.

EDWARD

Get in, and close the door.

Barry complies.

BARRY

Should I barricade it too?

Not waiting for any answer to the joke, he then moves to stand in front of Edwards desk.

EDWARD

Does Judy know any of this?

Barry again opens his mouth only to nod some more.

KNOCK, KNOCK.

Barry stops nodding. Without turning his head, his eyes dart toward the door and back to Edward.

BARRY

(stuttering)

Ye... ye... yes.

Edward, takes a couple second in an effort to straiten several things on his desk. Then he puts on a fake smile.

EDWARD

Come in.

The DOOR opens.

EXT. AMY AND CHARLEY'S HOUSE - SIMULTANEOUS

A suburban house, sits amongst others like it, on the curve of a cul-de-sac. The weather is nice. Birds are chirping. A car pulls into the driveway.

INT. BEDROOM

AMY, (20s) sits at her dressing table. LOKI, a kitty, sits at one corner, eyes half closed, PURRING.

Amy fastens the last garter strap to the top of a nylon stocking. She adjusts the negligee. Her makeup is exotic.

AMY
(to Loki)
What do you think?

Loki gives her only a passing glance, before resuming its meditation.

From the foyer, the house door OPENS and CLOSES. Keys DROP onto a table. Amy smiles to herself as she slips on a pair of exotically high heel shoes. Today is special.

CHARLEY (O.S.)
Sorry I could get only half the day
off. Hey, where are you?

AMY
In here. Where else would I be
today.

Amy reclines in her chair into a sexy pose.

CHARLEY (male, 20s) steps into the bedroom and melodramatically GASPS.

CHARLEY
What have you done with Amy, you
villainous vixen?

AMY
She's in here if you dare to enter
my lair. And what have you there?

CHARLEY
Stopped at "the shop." Wait till
you see what they had--

Charley crosses to the bed, which has a blanket with a busy pattern, and sets down a pink box with a black ribbon.

CHARLEY (CONT'D)
You'll have to come for it.

He sits at the bed's edge.

Amy puts on a sultry smile as rises from her chair. Slowly she high step cat walks to the bed. She stands, dominant, hands on hips, feet shoulder wide.

AMY
Open it.

CHARLEY
Uh uh. It's an odd numbered year.

AMY
Oh, that's right.

Amy kneels next to the bed. She reaches for the ribbon.

CHARLEY
Uh uh.

He CLICKS his teeth together.

Getting it, Amy puts her hands behind her and leans forward to bite the end of the ribbon. Pulling the knot comes undone.

She studying the rest of the packaging, and narrows her eyes at him.

CHARLEY (CONT'D)
OK, you can use your hands.

She grabs the package like a kid and gives it a shake. A JINGLE sound betrays something with metal inside.

AMY
Something of steel, perhaps. Let's see what Pandora's box beholds.

She shreds through the wrapper and pries the box open.

Her eyes go wide as she looks. Reaching in she pulls out an elaborate head harness gag with multiple straps and buckles.

AMY (CONT'D)
Behold, the evils of man.

She walks on her knees to him. Her bust against his knees, she hands him the leather and steel bundle.

AMY (CONT'D)
Here, put the evils of man on me.

CHARLEY

Topping from the bottom again?

AMY

Uh huh. Isn't that why you need this?

CHARLEY

No dinner first?

AMY

This IS my dinner. First dinner that is. Then we'll have second dinner.

She opens her mouth. He puts the ball into her mouth. As he tightens the main strap the leather panel covers her mouth. Working the other straps into place he tightens them snug.

Amy uses her hands to feel the harness on her head. She GIGGLES through the gag.

Her hands find a metal loop on the back of the main strap. Realizing what it is, she reaches into the box.

Her hand comes out with a heart shaped luggage sized padlock and a ring with two keys. DROPPING the keys back into the box she inserts the small padlock through the metal loop and CLICKS it shut.

Here eyes filled with delight, she shakes her head rattling the padlock against its lock loop, LAUGHING through the gag.

Pushing up using his knees she quickly takes short steps over to her dressing table, and admires it, stroking the straps.

AMY (CONT'D)

(gagged)

It's perfect.

Charley shakes his head.

CHARLEY

What?

He gets up from the bed to stand behind her. Turning in his arms she looks into his eyes. Amy looks past him to the bed and LAUGHS through her gag.

Charley turns. LOKI sits in the box, just fitting.

CHARLEY (CONT'D)

If it fits, it sits.

She turns her attention back to him.

AMY
(gagged)
Kiss me.

Confused, Charley narrows his eyes at her.

She grasp his head and presses the gag panel against his lips and makes a KISSING sound.

He squeezes her to him in a hug.

Amy's cell phone RINGS. She GROANS and rolls her eyes.

INTERCUT OFFICE AND BEDROOM

OFFICE

Edward is at his desk. The desk phone is set to speaker.

RING... RING... RING...

Standing beside his desk, her arms crossed, is JUDY (female, late-30s) very prim and proper, her hair in a neat bun atop her head.

In front of the desk, Barry talks with NIKKI (female, 20s) in casual shirt and jeans.

BARRY
(to Nikki)
You mean you can't help us find her files on the server?

NIKKI
Look, we only maintain the systems, AND protect them from, like a hundred hacker attacks a day. For something special like this, you need to go to the head of I-T and file a work order.

CLICK, the call is picked up.

Judy holds up her hand to quiet them. They all turn to Edward and the phone.

CHARLEY (O.S.)
(from the phone)
Um, hello?

EDWARD
 (into the phone)
 Ah, hi. This is Ed from Amy's work.
 Something's come up here and we
 have to talk to her.

Barry taps his wrist where a watch isn't.

BARRY
 (silently mouthing)
 Fifteen minutes.

Edwards nods.

CHARLEY (O.S.)
 Um, it's her day off?

EDWARD
 (into the phone)
 I know, but this is critical. We
 need to talk to her like real soon.
 Like... now, actually?

BEDROOM

BEDROOM
 Charley stands over Amy. He moves
 the phone away from his ear, and
 mutes it.

CHARLEY
 It's your work. They say they need
 to talk to you 'bout something.
 Like urgent, I guess.

Amy rolls her eyes, bobs her head side to side, then SIGHS as
 she nods. She reaches behind her head, but GRUNTS when she
 feels the padlock.

She points to the bed. The cat is no longer in the box, and
 the box is no longer on the bed. It's on its side on the
 floor.

CHARLIE
 One minute please.

Charlie crosses to the box. Picking it up, he looks in and
 overturns it with a shake. There is no key inside. He
 searches the busy pattern bedspread with both eyes and hands.
 No key.

Dropping to his hands and knees, he checks the floor around
 the bed. No key.

Sweeping his arm under the bed, his eyes widen. He pulls out a pair of handcuffs.

CHARLEY
(to himself)
So that's where those went.

Amy pulls on the taut straps of the head-harness gag. She can't get any slack to free her mouth.

CHARLEY (CONT'D)
(into the phone)
Um, Amy's a little tied... ah--
(he cringes)
A little indisposed at the moment.

OFFICE

Edward is leaning forward over his desk as the others watch over Nikki as she is working at the other desk computer.

EDWARD
(into the phone)
Look, Chuck, or whatever it is. I cannot impress upon you how very important this is.
(pause)

BEDROOM

EDWARD (O.S.)
(from the phone)
Execs from the Mishishu Corporation will be here within fifteen minutes.

Amy's eyes go wide. She puts her fingers to her mouth in an oh-no gesture, touching only the gag instead.

OFFICE

Everyone is frozen in place.

Nikki sits at the desk computer at the second desk. She looks up to Judy.

NIKKI
I can only login to my admin account at a secure consul in IT.

JUDY
If we get her password, are you
allowed to sign on as her?

Nikki ponders.

NIKKI
I don't know of any rule against
that.

Judy looks to Edward.

EDWARD
(into the phone)
Can you ask her...

BEDROOM

Charley is still holding the phone.

EDWARD
(from the phone)
...her password?

Charley nods. He turns to Amy, and makes a scissor cutting sign with his hand.

She shakes her head violently NO, and presses her hands protectively over the gag straps.

Amy pantomimes writing. They both glance around. There is nothing to write with or on.

Taking a DEEP BREATH she holds her hand out and flexes her fingers for the phone.

After surrendering the phone to her, Edward goes back to the bed and repeats his search for the keys.

Doing her best to annunciate, she speaks through the gag into the phone.

AMY
(gagged)
One-B-D-S-M-zero-zero-seven.

OFFICE

Edward holds the phone away from his head and looks at it like it's something he's never seen before.

Barry looks like he's just heard a ghost.

EDWARD

I... I couldn't make out a single--

JUDY

(to the phone)

Amy, was that B-B, or B-D?

AMY (O.S.)

(from phone, gagged)

B...D...

JUDY

(to Nikki)

One-B-D-S-M-zero-zero-seven

BEDROOM

Amy looks at the phone and shrugs.

JUDY (O.S.)

(from phone)

We see the Mishishu folder.

AMY

(gagged)

No, no. It's in the "DRAFTS" folder.

Her eyebrows raise, then furrow, as she sees Charley beginning to search the night stand drawers where the key can not possibly be.

OFFICE

Barry and Edward look back and forth between each other with the same confusion.

JUDY

(to Nikki)

Amy says it's in the "DRAFTS" folder.

NIKKI

OK, there's a lot of files in here.
None with Mishishu in the name.

AMY (O.S.)

(from phone, gagged)

Look for "HIROKO."

JUDY
 (to Nikki)
 "Hiroko."

Nikki searches the files.

AMY (O.S.)
 (from phone, gagged)
 It's the C-E-O's youngest daughter.

JUDY
 (into phone)
 Oh, I didn't know he had another
 daughter. How old?

AMY (O.S.)
 (from phone, gagged)
 Eight.

Barry and Edward look at each other.

BARRY
 (to Edward silently)
 How is she doing this?

Edward answers with a shrug and head shake.

NIKKI
 Found it.

JUDY
 (to Nikki)
 Print it. Five copies please.

Nikki NODS and works the computer.

BEDROOM

JUDY (O.S.)
 (from phone)
 Thank you Amy. Sorry to have upset
 your day off.

AMY
 (into phone, gagged)
 Oh, It's OK.

JUDY
 (from phone)
 Now, you have a good rest of the
 day with that Charley of yours.
 Goodbye.

The phone CHIMES as it disconnects.

Amy SIGHS relieved.

OFFICE

Judy looks around the room at the curious faces.

JUDY
It's just an English dialect I
happen to know.

Barry and Edward continue to stare.

Judy CLAPS her hands together.

JUDY (CONT'D)
Chop, chop. We have ten minutes.
(to Barry)
Run down to the gift shop and get a
small stuffed animal in a gift bag.
(to Edward)
Straighten your tie and put on your
game face.
(to Nikki)
Dinner later, my treat.

Nikki beams a smile.

BEDROOM

Amy lets out a relaxing SIGH.

Loki jumps onto the dressing table, and spits out the small
ring with the gag padlock keys. Amy LAUGHS TO HERSELF.

Charley, with a wry smile, approaches her, spinning the
handcuffs on one finger.

AMY
(gagged)
Wait.

Charley RATCHETS the cuffs on her wrists.

Amy GROWLS.

AMY (CONT'D)
(gagged)
I said "wait."

Charley is confused. He picks up the keys and unlocks the gag. Loosening the straps and works it off her head. Amy sucks in some saliva to keep from drooling, and exercises her mouth.

AMY (CONT'D)

You have the keys for these, right?

His grin changes to a blank stare.

CHARLEY

Oh...

Those keys.

Amy replaces her inquisitive stare with a happy expression.

AMY

We'll find them later. In the mean
time, where were we?

On the wall Charley's shadow reaches for Amy's.

Amy YELPS.

AMY (CONT'D)

That tickles.

Loki sits on the dressing table, eyes half closed in self
satisfaction, PURRING.

FADE OUT.

END