

NO GOOD DEEDS
"ANSWERING MACHINE"

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ACT ONE

INT. BANANA SUPPORT CENTER - ROY'S WORK STATION - DAY

ROY and DONALD sit next to each other in cubicles. Roy is doodling and DONALD is flipping through a magazine. The answering machine at the RECEPTIONIST STATION beeps in error.

TINA O.S.

Darn it!

DONALD slides his chair to ROY'S CUBICLE.

DONALD

Sounds like she needs a receiver, you know what I mean? I'd love to hang up her phone.

TINA O.S.

Hi, you have reached BANANA SUPPORT CENTER, please leave a...

The answering machine clicks and beeps in error.

TINA O.S. (CONT'D)

Shoot!

ROY

Sounds like she needs some help. That answering machine is tricky.

DONALD

I hired her this morning. I am the head of HR, you know.

ROY

I don't know why Mr. Stodgeman won't get voicemail for the office.

DONALD

I'd love to be the voice in her mail. Her phone numbers are double digits. I could call her.

The answering machine clicks and beeps in error.

TINA O.S.

What is wrong with this thing?

ROY searches his desk for the answering machine handbook.

ROY

I know I have that manual in a file somewhere. I had a call about it last week.

DONALD

My answering machine doesn't need a manual. It's always ready to take calls.

TINA O.S.

Okay. Let me try this one more time. I can figure this out. Thank you for calling BANANA SU...

The answering machine clicks and beeps in error.

TINA O.S. CON'T

What is happening? Can someone help me?

DONALD's desk phone rings, he slides back to his desk to answer it.

DONALD

BANANA REPUBLIC SUPPORT CENTER. This is DONALD.

ROY walks timidly to the RECEPTIONIST STATION.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. BANANA SUPPORT CENTER - RECEPTIONIST WORK STATION - DAY

TINA looks flustered. She pushes buttons on the answering machine to make it stop beeping so she can answer the phone.

TINA

BANANA SUPPORT CENTER, this is TINA to whom may I direct your call?

ROY watches TINA talk on the phone.

TINA (CONT'D)

Yes, sir MR. STODGEMAN. I am working on it right now. Okay. Okay. See you soon.

ROY

Hi. I'm ROY. Sounds like you are having some trouble with the answering machine. Can I help?

TINA

I have never used an answering machine in my life. I have no idea how to work this thing.

ROY

I can help you figure it out. I take calls about this model all the time.

TINA

MR. STODGEMAN is expecting a call at 11:45. He says since I'm new he wants the machine to take it.

ROY

Why don't you try to record the message now? Hold those two buttons in the middle.

ROY leans over the counter and points to two buttons on the answering machine.

TINA

Thank You for calling BANANA SUPPORT CENTER.

DONALD walks up to the counter while TINA is recording. ROY puts his finger to his lips to try to get him to be quiet but DONALD ignores him, his whisper is not a whisper.

DONALD

I have bananas for sale if you want some.

TINA

Please leave your name, telephone number and a brief message and someone will call you back.

DONALD

Leave your name and double digits.

TINA

Have a good day.

DONALD

Have a good day.

TINA looks at her watch and checks the time.

TINA

Just in time. It's 11:40. Whew. Thanks Roy.

INT. BANANA SUPPORT CENTER - ROY'S WORK STATION - DAY

ROY organizes his desk files and watches the clock. ROY stands behind him in his hospital gown.

ERNEST

Technology is so complicated.

ROY

It shouldn't be. I think we got it.

DONALD slides to ROY'S WORK STATION.

DONALD

Did you say something, man?

ROY

Just saying TINA seems nice.

END OF ACT TWO.

ACT THREE

INT. BANANA SUPPORT CENTER - ROY'S WORK STATION - DAY

ROY sits at his desk reading the answering machine manual. He has several manuals on his desk.

DONALD

What you got there fella?

ROY

Just checking out these manuals. I want to make sure we didn't miss anything.

DONALD

She's hot! I can sure can pick 'em.

ROY

I wonder what's special about the call. Why wouldn't MR. STODGEMAN want her to answer it? That's why she's here.

DONALD

I have an important phone call for Tina to make.

The office phone rings and the answering machine clicks on.

ERNEST

Here we go.

INT. BANANA SUPPORT CENTER - RECEPTIONIST WORK STATION - DAY

TINA looks at the phone with excitement. She listens to the phone ring and watches the red light turn on when the answering machine clicks to record. She hears herself and DONALD talking.

ROY O.S.

Oh no! We recorded the message with the volume on the highest setting. It picked up what DONALD said.

TINA

I am mortified.

DONALD O.S.

Leave your name and double digits.

TINA
Have a good day.

DONALD
Have a good day.

The answering machine beeps. TINA writes down her number and gives it to DONALD.

MR. STODGEMAN O.S.
I know you are listening TINA. You're fired.

TINA talks to the answering machine as if Mr. Stodgeman can hear her.

TINA
I'm fired? That wasn't my fault. Why am I getting fired?

MR. STODGEMAN O.S.
You are incompetent. I'm glad mother called my Nokia. Pack your things and leave before I get back.

MR. STODGEMAN hangs up and the answering machine clicks and beeps in one long continuous sound until the end of the scene.

TINA
I'll gladly leave this crazy place. Everything in here is older than my grandmother.

TINA snatches the paper from DONALD.

TINA (CONT'D)
Don't call me.

TINA grabs her purse and storms out of the office.

CUT TO

TITLE CARD "No Good Deeds."

END OF ACT THREE.

TAG

INT. BANANA SUPPORT CENTER - ROY'S WORKSTATION, DAY

ERNEST stands in ROY'S WORK STATION reading the answering machine manual.

ERNEST

Reading is fundamental, it says, "If machine beeps and won't record properly, replace batteries."

DONALD slides his chair into ROY'S cubicle.

DONALD

It's a shame TINA got fired. I thought I was going to hit that.

ROY

You and your bananas.

END OF EPISODE.