

MAX STONE

Written by
Brett Schlagel

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BrettSchlagel@gmail.com
BSchlagel.com

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Office ambiance - ringing phones, muffled conversation, typing. MAX STONE works in his tiny cubicle.

MAX (V.O.)

It's the end of the week. Friday.
Five minutes 'til quittin' time and
I've got a weekend planned that'll
make New Year's eve in Time Square
look like a kindergarten pizza party.

BOOODIIING! An email notification.

MAX (V.O.) (cont'd)

An email...and it's from the boss.

CLICK! Max opens the email.

MAX

"Mr. Stone. I need a hard copy of the
Henderson Account details on my desk
before the day is out. I know you're
the man for the job. Thanks. Rich
Johnson."

MAX (V.O.)

The Henderson Account details is a
shared file, accessible by anyone in
the company. There's even a copy room
just down the hall from Mr. Johnson's
office - 11 floors above my location.
But the calories he might burn. Damn.
He's right. It's too risky. I'll have
do it.

Max searches for the file on the network.

MAX

Henderson, Henderson, Henders- Ah.
Come to Papa.

Double clicks. DOOP!

CPU

System update required. Restarting
machine.

VR000oooooo. His machine shuts down.

MAX (V.O.)

Of all the days.

Max swivels his chair around and pops his head over the cubicle wall.

MAX

Randy! I've got a code X four eight, 4 minutes on the clicker, and the goose is gettin' slippery. Can you send the Henderson file to the printer?

Randy confirms.

RANDY

X four eight, 4 beats, a slippery goose, and the Henderson file to the printer. I'm on it.

Randy double clicks. The file opens.

MAX (V.O.)

If there's one person in this office I can count on it's Randy McFearson. Graduate of M.I.T., a code academy moderator, and a 3 year champion of the company chili cook-off.

Randy strikes a key hard.

RANDY

Done. The buns in the oven and ready to bake.

MAX

I knew I could count on you.

Max and Randy talk in fast succession.

RANDY

There's just one problem.

MAX

Spill it.

RANDY

The document was sent from my account.

MAX

Your account?

RANDY

My account.

MAX
What's the problem?

RANDY
You'll need the password to my print
profile.

MAX
So give me the password.

RANDY
We aren't authorized to share print
passwords.

MAX
So come with me.

RANDY
I can't.

MAX
Can't?

RANDY
It's almost quitting time and I have
big weekend plans.

MAX
How big?

RANDY
Huge. I've got 2 cases of -

Max joins in with the same plans.

MAX AND RANDY
- beer, the first 3 seasons of Full
House, my cousin Carl is stopping by,
and tomorrow is laundry day.

MAX
Yeah, me too.

Beat.

RANDY
Okay, I'll give it to you. But I
trust you'll use it wisely.

MAX
I will.

RANDY
It's eight zero zero eight one three
five exclamation point.

MAX
You're a good man. You did the right
thing.

RANDY
Make me proud, Max.

Randy makes his way to the printer at the end of the row.
Steps from the printer - he's sideswiped!

BETHANY
Oh! Max!

MAX (V.O.)
(in disgust/annoyance)
Ugh. Bethany.

BETHANY
Um, tomorrows Steven's birthday. Ummm
and I got him a card. So if you want
to sign it here's a pen.

A clock ticks. Time is running out.

MAX
I-

BETHANY
It'll just take a second!

MAX
Give it here...

He scribbles in the card.

BETHANY
(While Max is signing)
I mean, like, you could just write,
like, that he's been your best friend
since you came here to the office. Or
just something nice about me would
be -

MAX
"Hope. Your. Birthday. Rocks. Max.
Stone." Here.

Max takes off. Bethany fades in the distance.

BETHANY
Ope! Thanks, Max! You're the
greatest!

MAX (V.O.)
Finally, the printer.

Beeping keypad.

MAX
Select. Enter. Eight zero zero eight
one three five exclamation point.

BOODOODEE! VRRRRRR!

MAX (cont'd)
Bingo.

The printer prints the document. He grabs it, rushes to
elevator. CHIK! He presses the up button. DING! KRRRR! The
doors open. Mona is revealed.

MONA
Oh, Max!

He steps on, the doors close.

MAX (V.O.)
Mona Giordano. The sexiest woman in
the whole company. My crush. My love.
My kryptonite. I didn't know she knew
my name. But...I thought she worked
in another building.

MAX
Mona. What are you doing here?

MONA
I was looking for you. I can't take
it anymore, Max. I want you. All of
you. Take me! Take me now! Right here
in this elevator!

MAX
I -

She throws him against the wall.

MONA
Ooooo...Is that a stapler in your
pocket or are you just happy to see
me?

CHICKA CHICKA! He clicks a stapler.

MAX

I always carry one into the field.
You never know when two things must
be pressed together...

MONA

Go on...

MAX

And bound...

MONA

Yes?!

MAX

To become...

MONA

(sharp inhale)

MAX

...One.

MONA

Oh, Max! I hate this place! Runaway
with me! Far away. Somewhere void of
multi factor authentication and the
smell of printer toner. Somewhere
with a beach and a margarita with
with two little straws and a tiny
umbrella! It will be a new beginning
for the both of us!

MAX

Mona, I just started here 4 days ago.

MONA

Another new beginning, with just you,
me, and these!

RIPPP! She tears her shirt open. Angelic voices sing.

MAX

My God.

MAX (V.O.)

In all my years...I've never seen a
more perfect set of -

DING! The doors open.

MAX
I'm sorry. I must go!

He runs out of the elevator. Mona fades in the background.

MONA
(yelling)
Don't leave me, Max! Don't go!

He reaches the CEO's door.

MAX (V.O.)
Made it. I grabbed the door handle
and started to give it a turn.

JANITOR SENSEI
NOT SO FAST, MAX STONE!

GONG HIT! Asian pan pipes and Koto music.

MAX (V.O.)
Damn! Keith, the janitor. Also my
Shaolin Stick Fighting instructor on
Tuesday nights.

JANITOR SENSEI
To reach your true destiny, you must
first defeat me. TAKE YOUR WEAPON!

Odaiko drum music.

MAX (V.O.)
He threw me a broom handle. We bowed.

Fight ensues. Sticks clacking.

JANITOR SENSEI
You've been practicing! Good.! HI
YUH! YUH! WAAAAAA! But do you fight
with your head? Or with your heart?

MAX
Sensei, you speak in riddles.

JANITOR SENSEI
Yuh! Ha! Work is like a heavy stone.
Always there. Never moving...But what
of love, Max Stone? WAH! YUH!

MAX (V.O.)
My Sensei way right. It was time for
another new beginning.

MAX
 (through grunts/
 fighting)
 Sensei, I must apologize for what I
 am about to do.
 (like Bruce Lee)
 WAAAAAAAAAAAAOooooOoooo!

CRACK! Music stops. Stick hits floor. Sensei falls to his
 knees.

JANITOR SENSEI
 (in pain)
 You got the twig...and the berries.

MAX
 I must leave you now, Sensei, for my
 quest is not yet at an end.

Sensei collapses. Max runs to the elevator and presses the
 button.

MAX (V.O.)
 If it were truly meant to be...she'd
 still be there.

Ding! Doors open.

MAX (V.O.) (cont'd)
 And she was.

MONA
 Max!

MAX
 How 'bout that margarita?

END