

Business as Usual
(working)
by
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Based on
"Office Talk"
by
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FADE IN:

INT. OFFICE DAY

The OFFICE is a small room a few floors up from the ground. The lights are off, but daylight pours into the room through its two windows. The furnishings are minimal: a large, bare desk is positioned against the wall, and a stationary office chair is pushed up to it.

The door opens, and a MAN enters the room. He is dressed in business casual wear, and is carrying a small black briefcase and a large athletic bag. He does not turn on the lights, but moves over to the desk and sits the briefcase on the desk, to the side, and the bag on the floor adjacent to the desk. He then picks up the chair and places it next to one of the windows. He reaches up and draws the shades on the window near to the desk, but leaves the other window alone.

The man returns to the desk and bends down to open the athletic bag. He pulls out the contents one by one, neatly setting them on the desk. He picks up a rifle barrel and butt and snaps them together methodically. He then attaches a V-stand near to the end of the barrel. Also sitting on the desk is a scope, but he does not attach it to the weapon. He moves the assembled gun to the back of the desk and places the briefcase in front of him.

He thumbs in the combination to the briefcase and opens it. Inside we see a standard yellow mailing envelope. He pulls the envelope out of the case, and opens the flap. He pulls out a small white envelope. He then opens the sealed white envelope, and withdraws a photograph of a guy.

The photograph is a close-up shot of a YOUNG MAN, and is labeled "TARGET 88-2D". The man studies the photograph for a few moments.

The man then sets the photograph on the table, and reaches into the briefcase and removes a small ear piece and boom mike set. He places this in his ear, and flips the switch. He then connects the mike set to his cell phone. He fiddles with the ear piece.

EXT. GRASS DAY

We see a YOUNG MAN, who looks exactly like the YOUNG MAN in the sniper's photograph, with a YOUNG WOMAN. They begin to set up a picnic around them, in front of, but unaware of, the sniper perched above them.

INT. OFFICE (SECOND FLOOR OR HIGHER) DAY

Suddenly the sniper's cell phone vibrates softly. The Sniper presses a button on his mike set, and the call is answered.

MAN:

Hello?

WOMAN: (V.O.)

(breaking over static)

Hi honey, how was your day at work?

MAN:

Oh hey, work was very stressful, it was busy today non-stop.

WOMAN:

(clear)

Oh really, why was it busy today? Did you need to finish a project today?

The man looks at his watch to look at the time.

MAN:

Busy Busy Busy...

WOMAN:

Charlie and Clair invited us over for dinner tonight. What time do you think that you will be home?

INT. OFFICE DAY

The man picks up the scope and the photograph and goes over to the window with the chair. He sits down and looks out the window. He then places the scope to his eye and looks out the window again. He checks the first photograph, and returns his sight to outside the window.

The man sets the scope and the photograph on the window sill, and then slides the glass open slightly, and lowers the shades almost fully. He then goes over to the desk and picks up the rifle, and returns to his seat. Propping the V-stand on the window sill, he slides the tip of the gun out the opening of the window. He then reaches for the scope and attaches it to the top of the gun. He leans his head down to the scope, and looks through it.

Through the sniper scope we see the couple having a grand time on the picnic blanket. The young man is proposing to the girl.

MAN:

Uh... well traffic seems to be terrible, I think there might be an accident on the freeway.

WOMAN:

Well should I tell them that we can't make it?

MAN:

Well, the highway patrol, paramedics and the fire department have seemed to arrived.

WOMAN: (V.O.)

How come I can't hear any sirens?

MAN: (V.O.)

Because they turned them off when they got to the accident scene.

WOMAN: (V.O.)

Well how come no one has it on the news? I'm looking at all the news stations why don't I see it?

MAN: (V.O.)

It just happen that's why, the news can't get here and the Highway Patrol cars are keeping the press from the site.

WOMAN: (V.O.)

Oh, really is it that bad of an accident?

MAN: (V.O.)

Yeah, but it looks like they are working fast on it trying to clear it up.

MAN: (V.O.) (CONT'D)

How was the day at the office for you?

Back at the picnic, the young man looks around himself quickly.

MAN: (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 You pick up the kids from school
 yet?

The YOUNG MAN then pulls out his cell phone and answers it. He gets a worried look on his face, and stands up.

ZOOM IN - YOUNG MAN.

TRACK YOUNG MAN.

The sniper scope tracks the young man as he paces on the grass and talks on his phone. The hand holding the phone has a gold wedding band on the finger.

WOMAN: (V.O.)
 Yes.

MAN:
 Looks like they are starting to let
 traffic through. Tell Charlie and
 Clair that we will make it.

WOMAN:
 Ok good, what time you think that
 you will be home then?

MAN: (V.O.)
 Uh, give me a second...

MAN: (CONT'D)
 Looks like about 30 minutes or so.

The young man looks very upset, but he is nodding his head and talking.

MOB BOSS ON PHONE
 You have failed me for the very
 last time. [click]

The young man hangs up, returns his cell phone to his pocket, and looks in the direction of his wife. He stands up and grabs his wife.

MAN
 I need to put you on hold for a
 second, a cop needs to talk to me,
 probably about the accident.

WOMAN:
 Ok

The sniper presses a button on his cell phone, putting his wife on hold.

The cross hairs are on the YOUNG MAN, as the MAN gets ready to fire. The YOUNG MAN pulls the YOUNG WOMEN in front of the MAN cross hairs as the MAN fires the gun.

YOUNG WOMEN falls down on the ground. The YOUNG MAN falls on his knee's crying. The MAN reloads and aim's the cross hairs on YOUNG MANS head. The MAN precedes to fire the gun. The YOUNG MAN falls down on top of the YOUNG WOMEN. A shot sounds.

CUT TO BLACK.

Click sound from cell phone coming out of On Hold.

(CREDITS ROLL)

MAN:

MAN: (V.O.)

Should we bring anything over there to help them with dinner?

WOMAN: (V.O.)

I don't know let me see what we have here, that way I don't have to go the store.

MAN: (V.O.)

Ok... what about like a salad?

WOMAN: (V.O.)

I could make one, what should I put in the salad?

MAN: (V.O.)

How about a chicken salad or something, that sounds really good. I remember Charlie likes the chicken salad that you make. Oh and the freeway is all clear now. I should be home in about 10 minutes.

WOMEN: (V.O)

Ok I'll see you when you get home. We will leave around 7 to head over to Charlie's and Clair's.

END.