

INT. LESTER'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Craig enters. Lester, a giant of an old man, sits hunched behind his tiny desk.

LESTER

Come in, Mr. Juarez. I'd stand, but, well, you know.

CRAIG

(extending his hand)

Actually, my name is Craig Schwartz, Dr. Lester.

Lester flips an intercom switch.

LESTER

Security.

CRAIG

No, it's okay, sir. Just a mix-up with your secretary.

LESTER

She's not my secretary. She's what they call an executive liaison, and I'm not banging her, if that's what you're implying.

CRAIG

Not at all, Dr. Lester. I simply misspoke.

LESTER

Tell me, Dr. Schwartz, what do you feel you can bring to LesterCorp?

CRAIG

Well, sir, I'm an excellent filer.

LESTER

(crafty)

You think so, eh? Which comes first, L or... Glooph?

CRAIG

Glooph is not a letter, sir.

LESTER

Damn, you are good. I tried to trick you. Okay, put these in order.

Lester hands Craig a bunch of index cards. Craig orders them with amazing speed and dexterity. Lester watches, eyes wide.

LESTER (CONT'D)

(flips intercom switch)

Floris, get Guinness on the phone.

FLORIS (O.S.)
Gehginnis ondah foam?

LESTER
Forget it.

(flips off switch)
Fine woman, Floris. I don't know how she puts
up with this damn speech impediment of mine.

CRAIG
You don't have a speech impediment, Dr. Lester.

LESTER
Flattery will get you everywhere, my boy. But
I'm afraid I have to trust Floris on this one.
You see, she has her doctorate in speech
impedimentology from Case Western. Perhaps
you've read her memoirs, "I can't understand
a word any of you are saying."

CRAIG
No.

LESTER
Pity, it tells it like it is. That's why the eastern,
read Jewish, publishing establishment won't
touch it. That's a quote from the book jacket.
George Will, I think.

(beat)
I apologize if you can't understand
a word I'm saying, Dr. Schwartz.

CRAIG
No. I understand perfectly.

LESTER
(choking up)
Thank you for being kind enough to lie. You see,
I've been very lonely in my isolated tower of
indecipherable speech. You're hired. Any questions?

CRAIG
Just one. Why is this floor so short?

LESTER
Low overhead, m'boy. We pass the savings on to you.
(laughs heartily)
But seriously, that's all covered in orientation.