Zero to Hero

Written by:

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FADE IN:

INT. IRC - LEADERSHIP CENTER - DAY

A mecca of efficiency. BETH ANDERSON holds a Tully's cup of coffee - no lid. Steam rises. An ESH (Embedded Safety Hero) button on her lapel. She delivers her Embedded Safety vision, message, and commitment.

BETH

So lets spend a few minutes watching the escapade of "The Biffinator" as he transforms into an Embedded Safety Hero.

Smiles and sips from the cup as we...

FADE OUT:

INT. WORK AREA - DAY

Organized and well lit. A shop that shows pride in safety. On the walls: Before and after safety pictures, safety improvement awards, LWD (lost work day) and charts.

WORK CELL

Several EMPLOYEES watch BIFF, long time employee with a noticeable chip on his shoulder practice unsafe acts. He is trimming a part without safety glasses.

BG - A slender goofball with Attention Deficit Disorder fidgets and horseplays with someone trying to work.

EMPLOYEE 1

Look at "The Biffinator."

Everyone shakes their heads, disbelief.

EMPLOYEE 2

Kaizen circle?

EMPLOYEE 3

Yup.

BG - A SUPERVISOR breaks up Jimbo's horseplay session.

Employee 2 turns and grabs an air horn and pulls the trigger. He cups his hands and yells, "Safety Kaizen."

KAIZEN CIRCLE

About 10 employees gather around the circle on the floor.

EMPLOYEE 1

EMPLOYEE 2

Yup. No glasses.

EMPLOYEE 3

Simple.

EMPLOYEE 1

Simple?

EMPLOYEE 3

Yeah. Just go ask him to put his safety glasses on. That's part of the new Embedded Safety culture we agreed to instill when we signed on to become Embedded Safety heroes.

EMPLOYEE 2

Yup. I remember that.

EMPLOYEE 1

Okay. Who wants to take the action item?

One employee, Employee 4 raises his hand.

EMPLOYEE 1

You rock. Done.

Everyone puts there hands into the middle of the circle, like a football huddle.

EMPLOYEE 1

Great solution. Ready... break!

BIFF'S WORK BENCH

Clutter everywhere.

Biff installs a nut. Employee 4 taps Biff on the shoulder and hands him a pair of safety glasses.

Biff takes takes the glasses as if them are contaminated with something. Employee 4 nods and walks off.

A bubble pops out over Biff's head. It's his MOTHER. Her hands on her hips, staunch, finger pointing. His eyes roll up to see his mother.

MOTHER

Biffy. You put those glass on right now young man so you can come over on Sunday and see you mother.

A second bubble pops up. This one, the DEVIL. Biff's eyes shift to the Devil.

DEVIL

What are you a sissy. You don't need those things. Twenty years and no injuries yet. Throw those away.

Biff thinks, agrees with the Devil, shakes his head and throws them over his shoulder and onto the floor.

LATER - MONTAGE

Biff trims a part with a box knife toward him, no gloves. Employee 4 hands him some gloves. He tosses them aside.

Biff grinds on some composite at his bench. He hacks up a lung, toughing it out. Employee 4 hands him a respirator and points at a sign. Biff drops it in the trash.

BIFF'S WORK BENCH

Biff's face is covered in composite dust.

JIMBO (O.S.)

Hey Biff.

He turn toward the voice. A rubber band strikes his eye. Biff jerks away and bangs his head against something hard.

BIFF'S POV - Everything goes fuzzy, squiggly, then we...

FADE OUT:

START DREAM SCENE

Colors are more vivid, almost Wizard of Oz like.

Recovered from the bump. Biff squints his eye in pain, digs into his back pocket and comes away with a sliced finger. His reaction causes him to ram his knee against the table - more pain. He limp runs away and into the...

INTERSECTION

A rogue forklift blows through the stop sign. We get a brief glimpse of the DRIVER oblivious on a cell phone.

Biff winds up flat out on his back. Two black tire tracks across his chest and legs. One leg crumpled up. Broken.

MOVING LINE

A crude device only one could conjure up in a dream. Shopping carts are the moving cars. RTW (return to work) people shlep the carts along, almost half dead.

Two employees dump a banged up Biff into one of the carts like a piece of meat. A large ridiculous tag around his neck: EMBEDDED SAFETY FOUL.

One RTW gal, AMERICA, with severe limp chugs along pushing a cart. Shoe like Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz.

EMPLOYEE 4

Here's another one for Doc Thumbs.

Biff is in pain, delirious, confused, and wild eyed with fear.

AMERICA

Easy. Easy. This a Tuesday sugar?

BIFF

Where the... Where am I.

America pushes Biff closer to the a giant black box.

AMERICA

Hmmm. Hmmm. Looks like another case of failure to practice.

He moans.

AMERICA

Hey, it happen to America too sugar. But look at me now. Fast as Seattle Slew in the Kentucky Derby.

She cackles.

The cart moves close to the box. Just as it goes in Biff yells back at America.

BIFF

This is Wednesday.

AMERICA

(shaking her head crosses her fingers)
Oh sugar, good luck.

OPERATING ROOM

Unsterilized and dirty. Dim light. definitely not up to standards for an operating room. On the back wall a box for extra legs, arms, toes, and fingers.

A sloven five o'clock shadow, DR. AL THUMBS, snaps on a pair of plastic gloves standing over Biff on a gurney.

THUMBS

Dang gloves. Every time. Where's the janitor?

Thumbs grabs some scissors and cuts off the tips of the gloves and barks at a bubble gum chewing mess of a NURSE.

THUMBS

Whadda we got today?

She picks up a dirty clip board and read.

NURSE

Poked out eye, missing fingers, a
bad leg, and...
 (double checking)
yep that's it.

A cooler marked "Body Parts" slides in from outside.

NURSE

There it is right on time.

THUMBS

(slaps his hands
together)

Bout time. Let's get started.

The nurse pops the lid off and pulls out a large sub sandwich.

NURSE

Turkey.

Hands it to Thumbs. He's disgusted.

THUMBS

For the fifth time. I've asked them to cut this monster in half... (hold hand out) scalpel.

Thumbs slices his sandwich in half with the scalpel, licks the blade, then sets the sandwich on top of Biff.

THUMBS

So what are we gonna do bout that bad eye.

Nurse digs into her pocket, pulls out an old pirate patch.

NURSE

I have this eye patch from Halloween.

He shrugs and sews it on to Biff.

Thumbs face drips sweat. His tongue clenched between his teeth. Sparks fly as he tugs and pushes.

Thumbs wipes his brow, steps back and pats at his pockets. Found them -- cigarettes.

NURSE

Great work of art Doc.

THUMBS

Break time.

He sparks up a cigarette, suck in a relaxing drag. Thumbs looks around for something.

NURSE

What is it doc?

THUMBS

Seen my ipod?

Low music wafts from... Biff's chest. Thumbs rips off a giant Embedded Safety Certified sticker, reaches into Biff's chest and take his ipod back.

THUMBS

Mine. Not yours.

He knocks ashes into Biff with his cigarette and slap the sticker closed.

Nurses P.O.V. - Biff steps back, tilts his head side to side and admires his work.

MOVING LINE - BLACK BOX - OUTSIDE

A CROWD watches in anticipation. Our Embedded Safety Fairy, EMMA has her eyes glued on the exit door, magic wand in hand.

Biff shoots out on his butt.

BIFF

Arrg. That hurt.

He wobbles to his feet, checking out what Thumbs did to him. He's a pirate, with eye patch, hook, and peg leg. Biff is shocked and devastated.

BIFF

A pirate. They made me a pirate.

The crowd roars with laughter. Notices Emma.

BIFF

Who the heck are you!?

EMMA

Why I'm Emma the IRC Embedded Safety Fairy.

BIFF

Fantastic! Wave your magic wand and fix me. Put me back to normal.

EMMA

Oh I can't do that Biff. (leaning into him - whispering)

It wouldn't be fair. See Biff if you would have just done the right thing and joined us in our embedded safety culture change you would not have been a victim of crazy Al Thumbs.

(thinking)

He needs some embedded safety training himself.

BIFF

I don't want to be a pirate.

(realizing)

I want to be an Embedded Safety Hero.

I want to be an Embedded Safety Hero.

(Emma waves her wand)

I want to be an Embedded Safety Hero.

DREAM ENDS.

BIFF'S WORK BENCH

Biff is out cold. A SUPERVISOR (Al Thumbs in street clothes) clears the area.

SUPERVISOR

Give him some room.

Biff comes too.

BIFF

(mumbling)

I \underline{do} want to be an Embedded Safety Hero.

Everyone stares at Biff. The Supervisor, safety leader (Emma), Employee 2 (nurse), and Employee 1 (America).

SAFETY LEADER (EMMA)

Take it easy Biff. You just bumped your head. Your gonna live.

BIFF

You and you and you!

The safety leader winks at Biff.

SAFETY LEADER (EMMA)

(whispers)

Are you ready Biff to be our next Embedded Safety Hero?

BIFF

Absolutely.

She pins an ESH button on Biff. He flashes a smile of relief.

BG - Biff sees Jimbo juggling box knives. One falls and Jimbo's jovial face morphs into sheer pain.

Biff rushes over to help.

FREEZE FRAME - FADE OUT:

LEADERSHIP CENTER

Beth Anderson holds her Tully's cup with both hands. A gentle smile. She delivers a closing message about the Embedded Safety vision and goals for the IRC.

BETH

A fun tale of "The Biffinator's " transformation from Safety Zero to Embedded Safety Hero...

Beth delivers a closing message about the Embedded Safety vision, goals, and importance for the IRC.

She raises her coffee cup as we begin to fade to black. Wait, not yet. Back to full fade in.

Biff walks up to Beth.

BIFF

Excuse me. Beth?

He hands her a lid for her hot coffee cup with a smile.

BIFF

So you don't spill hot coffee on yourself.

Biff bounces off.

BETH

Thanks Biff... Now that is the engagement we are looking for.

She walks off.

FADE OUT: