

I Saw a Clown Today

By

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INT. BEDROOM DAY

SMITH is lying in bed asleep with a big goofy smile on his face.

ALARM CLOCK BEEPS!

His eyes open and the big goofy smile never changes

TITLE SCREEN -- "I saw a clown today"

INT. OFFICE DAY

Smith is sitting in a cubicle working with a big smile continuing from the previous scene. His watch beeps a few times.

Across from Smith is JOHN (mid 20's). John examines Smith who is ignoring his WATCH ALARM.

JOHN

Are you going to get that?

SMITH

(confused)

-hmmm. What?

JOHN

Your watch; It's been beeping for a couple of minutes now.

SMITH

Oh! That's right. It's just letting me know it's break time. It should stop any minute.

Smith continues examining a piece of paper as John is distracted by the watch. The watch suddenly stops.

SMITH

See.

JOHN

Good. I've got this form here I think you should-

Smith suddenly starts to straighten his work area and get out of his chair.

JOHN

Where you going?

(CONTINUED)

SMITH
It's break time! I'll be back in
fifteen minutes.

Smith exits the room.

JOHN
But we have a lot of work...(sigh)

INT. OFFICE (BREAKROOM) DAY

A few people are standing around drinking coffee and making small talk. Smith walks in with his big smile. As his coworkers spot him you can see their faces turn to disappointment and annoyance. Smith walks up to them and pours himself some coffee.

SMITH
Hey guys. Thank God it's Friday.

Smith jokingly jabs TIM, one of the coworkers standing next to him, in the stomach with his elbow. Tim sarcastically smiles, rolls his eyes and intentionally walks away from Smith.

TIM
It's only Wednesday Smith.

SMITH
Ha Ha Ha. Yeah.

Smith moves next to Tim and jokingly elbows him in the stomach again. Everyone pauses in uncomfortable silence as no one laughs at Smith's joke.

TIM
So Smith have you met Alan yet.

Tim points to a coworker seated at a table drinking coffee. ALAN stands and puts his hand out for Smith to shake. Smith slaps Alan's hand and then moves in and gives Alan a big hug.

SMITH
Ha Ha Ha. Nice to meet you I'm
Smith.

ALAN
Uh. it's nice to meet you Mr.
Smith.

(CONTINUED)

SMITH

Ha Ha Ha. It's not Mr. Smith. Smith is my first name. It's Smith George.

ALAN

Your first name is Smith and your last name is George. That is a little unusual.

SMITH

Ha Ha Ha. Yeah.

Smith moves away from Alan to stand next to Tim and again jokingly elbows him in the stomach. Once again everyone stands around in uncomfortable silence.

SMITH (CONT'D)

So back to the daily grind. Ha Ha Ha. Thank God it's Friday. Right Timmy boy.

Smith jokingly elbows Tim in the stomach and leaves the room.

TIM

(to coworkers)
God I hate that guy.

INT. OFFICE DAY

Smith is seated at his desk listening to John talk. John is discussing some comments when Smith's watch alarm goes off again.

SMITH

Lunch time.

JOHN

Oh come on SMITH, we're so close to finishing this project. Can't you just hold off lunch for a half hour or so?

Smith grabs his jacket and lunch.

SMITH

Wish I could JOHN but my hands are tied- and not in the kinky way. Ha ha ha.

Smith heads for the door.

(CONTINUED)

JOHN
Oh come'on?!

Smith pauses for a moment like he's thinking about the offer.

SMITH
You're right! It's such a beautiful day outside I think I'll have lunch in the park. See you in thirty
JOHNNY BOY.

John sighs.

EXT. PARK DAY

Smith is sitting on the grass in a park eating a store bought sandwich and drinking a soda. He finishes eating and falls back to lie in the grass. He closes his eyes and sighs. When he opens his eyes again a clown is standing over him bent down with his face only a few inches from Smiths.

Smith jumps back in surprise and gets to his feet.

SMITH
Uhh. Hi. Who are you?

The clown stands there with a big smile and says nothing.

SMITH (CONT'D)
Uhh. Well my name is Smith.

Smith sticks out his hand for the clown to shake. The clown hugs Smith picking him up off the ground and spinning around.

SMITH (CONT'D)
Hey let go of me.

The clown drops Smith to the ground and smiles.

SMITH (CONT'D)
What the hell is wrong with you?

Smith stands up and brushes himself off.

SMITH (CONT'D)
Listen I don't have any money on me or anything so why don't you take off.

The clown smiles at Smith and pokes him in the stomach a few times.

(CONTINUED)

SMITH (CONT'D)

Hey what are you doing? Stop it.

Smith starts slapping away the clown's hand. The clown doesn't stop and starts alternating between hands as Smith responds by slapping them away alternating between his hands. The clown stops after a little bit just to squirt Smith in the face with water from a flower on his chest.

SMITH (CONT'D)

Alright buddy I'm out of here.

Smith wipes the water off of his face and walks away. The clown starts to follow him. Smith notices him and ignores him. The clown follows after Smith skipping and jumping around while circling Smith. The clown then pulls flower petals out of his pocket and throws them up into the air onto Smith. Smith stops walking and angrily turns to face the clown.

SMITH (CONT'D)

What are you doing leave me alone.

The clown looks at sadly for just a second and then smiles once again and throws a handful of flower petals in to Smith's face.

SMITH (CONT'D)

Alright that's it.

Smith angrily shoves the clown pushing him to the ground. The clown gets up brushes himself off and smiles at Smith.

SMITH (CONT'D)

Sorry. I didn't mean that but you are kind of annoying. I'm going back to work why don't you just take off.

The clown smiles at Smith and Smith smiles back at the clown. Then the clown squirts Smith with the flower of his chest. Smith turns angry and lunges at the clown. They fall back and slam into a wall. Smith stands up and holds his head.

SMITH (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

The clown stays on the ground with his eyes closed. Smith taps the clown with his foot.

(CONTINUED)

SMITH (CONT'D)

Hey get up.

The clown stays motionless and Smith starts to panic. He checks the clown and finds no pulse. Smith looks around nervously and starts to pace around.

SMITH (CONT'D)

(to self)

It's okay it was a simple fight. I didn't mean to hurt him it's not my fault. I'll be okay I just need to tell the police.

Smith stops pacing and looks down at the clown.

SMITH (CONT'D)

(to self)

But he never hurt me. He was annoying but he didn't do anything. I attacked him. I got angry and pushed him. He never did anything wrong.

Smith starts pacing again.

SMITH (CONT'D)

(to self)

No it's okay it was just an accident everyone will understand. No problems. Right?

He looks over at the dead clown.

SMITH

...damn.

EXT. STREET DAY

Smith is standing at the corner of a building and peeks around the corner looking back and forth. He then comes around the corner dragging a rug with something rolled up in it and takes it inside the building.

INT. OFFICE DAY

Smith sets the rug in the hall of his office and walks down the hall. He stops to talk to his JIM.

(CONTINUED)

SMITH

Hi JIM. I need the rest of the day off.

JIM

Why?

SMITH

I need to go do a thing.

JIM

What? Listen you can't just leave work unless it's an emergency okay. So unless someone died get back to work.

SMITH

Ha Ha Ha. Yeah. Good one boss. Ha Ha Ha. Someone died. Funny.

Smith's boss shakes his head and walks away. Smith walks back down the hall and sees Alan standing around looking at the rug. He runs down to them and gets between him and the rug.

SMITH (CONT'D)

Hey ALAN what's going on?

ALAN

Hey Smith. Someone left a rug here in the middle of the hall.

SMITH

Yeah. Sorry that's mine. I'll move it.

ALAN

Here let me help you.

Alan grabs one end of the rug to lift it up. Smith looks around nervously and then picks up the other end of the rug.

SMITH

...sure.

INT. OFFICE (STORAGE ROOM) DAY

Smith and Alan walk into the storage room carrying the rug. They bend down and place the rug on the floor. Smith stands up and Alan sits down on the floor.

(CONTINUED)

SMITH

Thanks for the help. I'll leave this here and get it after work.

ALAN

Sure no problem; that was pretty heavy is something inside it.

SMITH

Uh huh. Yeah I uh bought athing and uh wrapped it in the rug to ... to protect it.

Alan looks up at Smith and smiles.

ALAN

Yeah. Okay.

Alan looks down at the rug.

ALAN (CONT'D)

Be careful it almost looks like there is a body in there.

Alan looks back up at Smith. Smith is standing there with a look of panic and fear on his face.

ALAN (CONT'D)

Are you okay? You don't actually have a body in there do you?

SMITH

It was an accident! He pushed me at the park-

ALAN

Oh my god! Just back away man!

SMITH

He was annoying me- I didn't mean to!!

ALAN

Okay okay just put the letter opener down ok?!

SMITH

(confused)

What?

Smith looks down at his hand which is holding a letter opener. Smith freaks out and throws the letter opener on the ground.

(CONTINUED)

SMITH
I don't know how that happened.
Please help me!

Smith reaches out to Alan who backs up but suddenly stops like he'd been stabbed in the back.

SMITH
...ALAN?

Alan falls to the ground as we CU of several letter openers stabbed into his back.

Smith can't believe his bad luck as he quickly heads for the door. Smith swings the door open until he hears a violent SMACK!

HALLWAY

Smith cautiously peeks around the door to find JIM, his boss, lying on the floor with broken glasses and blood dripping out of his nose.

SMITH
...damn.

INT. OFFICE DAY

Smith nervously walks into his office. He is wiping his hands clean several times with a paper towel. John is annoyed and waiting.

JOHN
Look who decided to show up?!

Smith sits down in his desk and looks at the papers.

SMITH
Sorry. I had a thing. So where were we?

JOHN
What happened to the '30 minute lunch JOHNNY boy'?

SMITH
Yeah. Sorry. Something came up.

JOHN
Sure. And what about the rug I saw you carrying? Were supposed to be working, not shopping for home decor.

(CONTINUED)

Smith stops shaking and looks up at John sternly.

JOHN

Hey sorry I didn't mean that. I'm just frustrated. It's a big project. Thank god it's Friday right? Ha Ha!

SMITH

It's Wednesday. Is that door shut all the way?

JOHN

(confused)
Yeah. Why?

SMITH

No reason.

Smith smiles.

We see a shot of the door out side the office. Suddenly there is a smack then a sound of a body falling to the ground.

INT. OFFICE (BREAKROOM) DAY

Tim walks into the break room and pours himself a cup of coffee. He turns around and seated at the table is the body of the clown propped up facing the wall. A few more coworkers walk in and spot the clown. Tim turns and notices them.

TIM

Hey look it's a clown.

The other coworkers come up to stand around the clown.

COWORKER TWO

Cool is it someone's birthday or something?

Tim taps the clown on his shoulder.

TIM

Hi. What are you doing here?

Everyone waits for the clown to answer.

COWORKER TWO

You know who would love this. I'm going to get Smith.

(CONTINUED)

The Coworker Two leaves and everyone else stands around.

COWORKER THREE
Hey clown can you do balloon
animals and stuff- make me a dog or
something.

The clown just sits there.

Tim shakes the clown's shoulder. The clown starts to slide
out of his chair and falls to the floor.

COWORKER THREE
Is he okay?

Tim bends down and shakes the clown's shoulder.

TIM
Sir can you hear me?

Tim shakes him a little harder and then stops and looks up
at the others.

TIM
Oh my god he's dead.

Coworker four runs in the room.

COWORKER FOUR
I just found JIM and ALAN dead in
the storage room. It looks like
someone stabbed and beat them to
death with office supplies.

Suddenly Coworker Two enters the room shaken.

COWORKER TWO
Has anyone seen Smith or John? I
just found blood in their office?

Janitor enters the room.

JANITOR
I don't want to alarm anyone but I
just found a body in the dumpster.

The camera then shifts to Smith who is wiping his hands
clean as he enters the break room.

SMITH
(optimistically)
Hey everyone whats going on?

He then realizes that several people are crowded around the dead clown and have some of the murder weapons covered in blood. Everyone is staring at Smith.

SMITH
...let me explain-

EXT. STREET DAY

Smith is walking away from the office building as it burns to the ground. Smith has a big smile on his face.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Smith's wife is sitting in the living room watching TV. Smith enters through the front door.

WIFE
Hi hun! How was work?

Smith looks over at his wife and thinks about the question a moment before tearing up.

SMITH
I saw a clown today.

FADE-OUT: