

ENLIGHTENED - AMY

INT. MEETING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Amy sits across from a middle-aged woman, JUDY, the head of HUMAN RELATIONS, and a younger man, BRAD.

Judy looks up from her file.

JUDY

So, Amy, let's talk about your expectations here.

AMY

My expectations? Umm, I know that what happened three months ago was the result of uh, my depression. I was being treated - and getting anti-depressants, but the umm... it didn't keep me from my, uh, you know... Basically, I had a breakdown.

JUDY

You created a real situation. There were outbursts. Threats. We can't tolerate that here.

AMY

I did work here for fifteen years. I started at the reception desk. That should count for something.

JUDY

Well, that's why we agreed to this meeting.

AMY

And the point is I've gotten help. I went to Open Vistas in Laguna...

JUDY

Right. We read their assessment.

AMY

I learned so much there about so much. I learned I was running from pain. And running from pain to what I thought was pleasure - was just actually creating more pain. And I had a lot of pain - you know what I mean, Judy? Have you ever been self-destructive?

Judy realizes Amy is waiting for a response.

JUDY

I'm... not sure.

AMY

(rapidly spewing)

I did get involved with someone at work - which of course was stupid - and when it got awkward - for him - I felt he had me transferred - unfairly. I don't really want to get into all that because I've really moved on - and I want you to know I have really put that issue to bed. It was just a trigger anyway for all this other stuff, Judy, that started way before that with my divorce - my ex-husband was an addict - with alcohol and cocaine and on-line gambling - and there had been other things - I had had a miscarriage and... Even before that, my father committed suicide when I was in high school. He shot himself in our garage. Which was obviously a huge trauma. I never dealt with it - or anything painful. I couldn't. So when things went bad for me, all of this stuff that I had buried just came exploding up in me. And I just snapped. Again, it comes back to running from pain. And I'm not doing that anymore. I'm not afraid. The funny thing is what seemed like such a shameful event has actually been the best thing that ever happened to me. And I'm back. I've put a lot of energy toward healing and now I have the energy to work again. And I want to work. I want my job back. You know what I'm saying?

Amy smiles. But Judy and Brad are kind of stunned.

JUDY

Well, the problem is - the buyer position in Health and Beauty has been filled.

AMY

That's okay. I like working with vendors - and Cleaning Supplies is perfectly fine.

(MORE)

AMY (CONT'D)

I wasn't okay with it then - but I have a lot of ideas about Cleaning Supplies now.

Judy turns to Brad.

BRAD

The buyer job in that department has also been filled.

JUDY

You know, Amy, in the last couple months, we've had to lay off quite a few people in all departments. The economy is what it is. We're happy to see that you're doing better - and you got the help you needed. But unfortunately, we just don't have a position to offer you at this time.

AMY

(shocked)

What?

JUDY

Perhaps in a few weeks - or months - things will change - but right now, there's just no jobs. I'm sorry.

Amy takes a moment to take this in.

AMY

Really? That's so weird. 'Cause back in November, when I left I spoke to a lawyer - and he said there's no way you wouldn't take me back - just 'cause I had a preexisting condition of depression - and since I went to get treatment - and if you didn't bring me back, there would be grounds for some kind of lawsuit or something. Wrongful termination? So I'm just kinda confused.

Brad and Judy are momentarily silent.

JUDY

Would you excuse us for a second?

AMY

Oh, yeah, of course!

Amy sits happily as Judy and Brad head out to pow-wow.