

Decisions, Decisions

written by

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CHIEF (M) Indecisive, rambling Fire Chief

RUPERT (GNS) Clear thinking, Assistant Fire Chief

FIRE CREW (GNS) As many actors as you care to cast. Non-speaking.

Address
Phone
E-mail

BEAT ONE - INT. DAY - OFFICE OF FIRE STATION CHIEF.

*This can be indicated by desk and chair far DR or DL.
You may use flat or rolling partition to indicate
wall, but not necessary.*

RUPERT

Hey Chief, I'm headed to Sid's for a sandwich. What can I bring you?

CHIEF

Oh, thanks. I'll take a Pastrami on rye. Add mustard. Hold the mayo.

RUPERT heads toward exit.

RUPERT

Got it.

CHIEF

On second thought...mind if I change that?

RUPERT

Of course not. I know how you hate to be locked in...since that **marriage** thing didn't work out.

CHIEF

Right. Let's go with the Tuna on wheat. I had Pastrami last week.

RUPERT heads toward exit.

RUPERT

Sounds great!

CHIEF

With a side of macaroni.

RUPERT

Got it!

CHIEF

Hold on, hold on. Their macaroni makes me feel kinda bloated. How about slaw?

RUPERT

Great!

CHIEF

Wait, I don't know...slaw/cabbage/gas.... Let's go with cottage cheese on the side...

RUPERT

Perfect!

CHIEF

...of a Rubin. Yeah, that's it. A Rubin. Or have you ever tried their...

FIRE ALARM goes off in Station and remains as underscore throughout the following beat.

BEAT TWO - INT. DAY - FIRE STATION

Fire truck may be indicated by lining up with/without chairs.

CHIEF

(to RUPERT and imaginary crew
offstage, or actors as fire
crew)

All right, everybody to truck #8. Load her up! Let's go, let's go, hustle!

CHIEF, RUPERT and CREW grab gear and rush to "fire truck."

And we're off. Ohh man! Forgot about these blasted brakes squeaking. Drives me nuts. I think Truck 6 will be better.

(Commanding voice)

Truck 6! Let's go! Hustle, hustle, hustle. My Grandma can run faster than some of you. Go, go, go!

CHIEF, RUPERT and CREW all switch to Truck 6, CHIEF in driver's seat.

CHIEF (CONT'D)

Awwhhhh man! Forgot about this radio. Speakers go in and out. We gotta move. Whattya you guys think? Truck 11? Hey, that's my granddaughter's Birthday next week. Or maybe Truck 13? No, we've got a fire to deal with - that's unlucky enough. Let's try #7. Yep, let's go with Number 7.

CHIEF, RUPERT and CREW drag gear yet again. As "fire truck #7" rolls offstage, we hear CHIEF, voice fading as ad infinitum as the fire alarm continues under.

CHIEF (CONT'D)

Yep, good ole Lucky 7...love this new paint job. Whatdaya think?

(volume fading as truck drives
off)

Kind of a candy apple red...or maybe more of a Burnt
Hickory... With a splash of Rose Floral Red?

BEAT 3 - EXT. DAY - HOUSEFIRE

*CHIEF and RUPERT in "fire truck" rolls to fire scene,
with or w/o crew actors.*

*. VICTIM WOMAN waving/yelling out 2nd floor window as
CHIEF and RUPERT approach in firetruck. You might want
to put VICTIM WOMAN on ladder or otherwise elevate.*

CHIEF

Don't worry, ma'am we've got you covered. We've got the
safety net right here.

*RUPERT and CREW join CHIEF under window to stretch
net.*

CHIEF (CONT'D)

OK, on 3. One, two...Hold it, hold it. Ma'me can you switch
to the other window? We'll catch you there.

*VICTIM picks up and moves ladder as CHIEF, RUPERT and
CREW switch windows.*

Just hate to destroy this beautiful azalea ya got here. A
falling body could do some serious damage to those blooms.
Might never recover. And these are perennials you know. Or
are they annuals? Depends on pruning I guess...

ALL at second window.

CHIEF (CONT'D)

Much better. OK on 3. One, two, ..By the way, ma'me, if you
don't mind my asking, what are you wearing? Something modest
I hope. I mean, you know these scenes tend to go viral. We
don't want the whole world to learn Victoria's Secret now do
we? Maybe go grab some sweats. Or something in a lycra. We'll
wait, won't we crew?

VICTIM WOMAN disappears.

CHIEF yells to empty window.

CHIEF (CONT'D)

Jumpsuits also work nicely. Not too much flying up or down,
if you know what I mean.

VICTIM WOMAN reappears in different color.

CHIEF (CONT'D)

Ah nice choice. The robin egg blue is really gonna stand out against the orange-red cast of the flames. Great for pictures. OK on 3. One, two, THREE.

VICTIM WOMAN jumps as lights out.

In black out we hear V/O.

CHEIF V/O

Speaking of pictures...Rupert trade me places. This is my bad side.