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STROBE LIGHTS
STROBE LIGHTS



Strobe lights pulsing. Acid burning. Parasites eating. The Shadow Man enters the holding area. Sits. Tyler + Darren + Todd sense a presence. Flash. Flash. Flash.

Tyler

Who's here? Directed inward. Fuck. Shit. I can't see. Who's here? Are you here to save us? Are you a monster? I will send my thoughts to the flashing lights. Darren. Todd. Can you hear me? Listen. Am I talking to myself? We must escape. Who's here? I'm innocent.

Todd

Nothing. A blank mind.

Darren

OMG. Pain. You are roiling through my insides. Tyler. We must escape. Listen. I'm screaming. Why is there no sound?

Todd

Nothing. A blank mind.

Darren

We must get out of here. Who's here? Is someone out there? Save us. The acid... my insides... Help. Help. Help.

Todd

Nothing. A blank mind.

Tyler

I must find my voice. I must save us. Why would I save you? A stock scam. A business scam. You stole from me. How do I know you will not do the same to me as you did to ()? Is it true you are using me to get to my father?

Todd

Nothing. A blank mind.

Darren

I will make you rich. I am your future. Can you hear me? I am your future.

Tyler

I can see your skin melting. Darren. You stole from me. You got me involved in the business, forcing me to give you dollars on short notice, forcing me out, and stealing from me. Why should I believe anything you say? Listen to me. I am starting to see you for what you really are.



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Todd

Nothing. A blank mind.

Darren

Is someone else here? You are no different than I am. I would never rob you because I need you to steal from others for me. I need your fathers; I mean your skills. I would never use you. Never. Listen. We must escape.

The Shadow Man scratches a nail down the outside of the fishbowl.

Todd

Nothing. A blank mind.

Tyler

I can't breathe. My lips are burning, burning, gone. We must escape. This is futile. Who's there? What is that incessant scratching? LISTEN TO ME. Why is there no voice, no sound? Darren, can you hear me? You can't.

I must get us out of here, I must get out of here.

I'm seeing you for the first time for who you are.

I'm not like you.

You are a fucking monster.

Todd

Nothing. A blank mind.

Darren

You two are weak. You're easy to control, to manipulate. I know you can hear me, but you were never listening. I will escape. I will move on without you.

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SCRAATTTTTTTTTCCCCCCH...
SCRAATTTTTTTTTCCCCCCH...

Strobe Lights Pulsing
STROBE LIGHTS PULSING

Tyler

Who's here?

Grammarly Readability Score = 98 (A New Record)

DEPRESSED DEPRESSED

I know you.

My family when secrets were uncovered, disappeared.

The company when the pandemic hit, reduced me to \$-signs and left me wallowing in silence.

My friend(s) who never reached out to ask if I'm okay?

My boss saying, "You're not the only one," as if I thought →

A person on the street walking toward me, forcing me to stop.

I'm invisible.

Money + stuff, I hate you for that.

Me.

When I snap at love.

I need to know you →

To control you.

May I get you something to eat?



AMONGST FRIENDS
AMONGST FRIENDS

Fucking, told me an 18-year-old walking by was the first person he had sex with. It was, pardon this, fucking weird.

The person probably reminded him of the first...

Stop, you're weird as well. Why would anybody say shit like that?

It reminded...

It's not normal. I don't have baby pictures of the people I've been intimate with.

Baffled looks.

I'm not sure I like you people.

I think for the next song I will play something by Katrina & The Waves. It is a sunny day after all.

HUMAN SNAPSHOT HUMAN SNAPSHOT

THE BEAST OF ALBERTA

The Beast of Alberta (Stanley) is a raging alcoholic. He watched his girlfriend die. He has never been given treatment for his trauma. He is sent to a client site. He decides to take off his boots because his bare feet give him a better grip walking on the rebar.

WALTER

Walter is an addict. He needs a fix. He desperately tries to manipulate the dispatcher into giving him work.

Walter owes the Agency \$40 for previous times when he took advances and didn't go to work. The agency has labelled him: CRACK RUNNER.

"My girlfriend died of an overdose. I held her hand while she passed. I need work. She died an hour ago."

When not high, Walter is a good worker. *He's always high.*

Walter storms out the door, not before shouting at the dispatcher, "What's the worst thing that's ever happened to you: did your neighbour cheat on you?"

RM

RM is a racist. He's constantly cycling steroids.

"Do you think we should wipe out both North and South Korea because they're all..."

The dispatcher sends him out to a job.