

Employment

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EMPLOYMENT

I'm looking for work in this room, naturally. I'm desiring lots of work in here. I'm very serious about my desire.

I go up to the guy. "Is there work?" I ask.

"I would imagine," he says. He shows me to the desk. It's the same old desk, my desk.

I pull out the chair and sit down.

I open one of the drawers. I find my underwear and socks exactly where I keep them. I open another and find my health-and-beauty aids.

The guy says, "You get dental, eyeglass, life insurance, major medical, death and dismembership, two weeks' paid vacation, seven paid holidays, fifteen paid sick days, personal days TBA. Employee pilfering is the retail sector's filthiest of secrets. Lift with your whole body, not with individual limbs. Don't just be a people person—be a person's person. Come in through the employees' entrance and breathe out through your mouth. This concludes the orientation."

I reach for a pen.

He slaps my hand hard.

"Just do what you'd be doing anyway," he says. "Only now it's going to be work."

