

SAMPLE EXCERPT FROM
OUT OF FOCUS, EPISODE 4: A GENERATION GAPPED

by

Brook Ellingwood

Brook Ellingwood
Represented by
McHugo Artists Agency
11350 Ventura Blvd. #208
Studio City, CA 91604
(323) 455-4811
info@mchugoartists.com

ACT ONE

INT. OFFICE OF J.MCFIZZ CREATIVE -- DAY

The OFFICE is in a brick building from 1900 or perhaps a little earlier. Chris and JEN are at their IKEA desks flanking a meeting area with an IKEA couch, armchairs, and coffee table. Some posters of past work done by the agency adorn the walls, while others that are not yet hung up lean on them. A few moving boxes are stacked here and there.

MIKE(O.C.)

Hey, sorry you got the wrong address. That north/south stuff matters yeah?

Mike enters the office through the front door, ushering in ASHLEY AND ZACHARY. They are roughly 30 and their hipster demeanor and fashion gives an impression of ambiguity to their ethnicities, genders, and sexualities. They are both looking at and interacting with their phones even as they walk and speak.

ASHLEY

I liked that neighborhood. This neighborhood is... what is this neighborhood again?

MIKE

This is Georgetown. It was the brewery district.

ZACHARY

Yes, it seems... old.

MIKE

Your company is here in Seattle?

ZACHARY

Yes. We were told it would be a better culture fit than Brooklyn so we founded it here.

CHRIS

It's funny you walked into another creative studio at the north version of our address. I've seen those guys' work. It's very... current...

Chris and JEN stand up and move to greet the newcomers. Jen is Asian, in her early 40s, with a hint of industrial/goth sensibility reflected in her black skirt, matching top, makeup, and accessories.

JEN
Hi, I'm Jen.

MIKE
This is Jen.

ASHLEY
I'm Ashley. My co-founder is Zachary.

JEN
Ashley, Zachary. From A to Z. I like it!

Neither Ashley nor Zachary display any reaction. They are still using their devices.

JEN
Uhm, okay. So you went to the wrong address?

ZACHARY
Your metadata is wrong.

ASHLEY
You should fix your metadata.

ZACHARY
It was a new building. Like built yesterday. With a new creative studio in it.

CHRIS
Brazil. The neighborhood you went to is Brazil.

Everyone looks at him in confusion. Ashley and Zachary immediate return to looking at their phones.

MIKE
What?

CHRIS
I mean, it's not really called Brazil. I call it that because it's almost entirely covered by Amazon.
(pause)

Like the river?

(pause)

Then there's the movie "Brazil."
Have you seen that?

MIKE

(hurriedly)

Chris is our Creative Director.
Jen is the project manager.

CHRIS

Mike is... what? Business and
customer relations guy? And he's
my big brother. I'm his brother
too.

ASHLEY

This is your whole office?

MIKE

Yes, the whole thing.

ASHLEY

Hmm. You came highly recommended.

JEN

We're the core team. We contract
more resources as needed.

MIKE

Perhaps we should sit down. Can I
get anyone anything?

Ashley and Zachary

(together)

Is Croix.

MIKE

Uhh, we have some Cokes...
coffee... a couple beers.

ZACHARY

We're fine.

Everyone moves towards the seating area. There is some
awkwardness as they figure out who will sit where,
exacerbated by Ashley and Zachary continuing only to look
at their phones even when they walk.

MIKE

Alright, we're looking forward to
learning more of what we can do
for you. You say we were

recommended to you?

ASHLEY

Yes.

MIKE

Do you mind if I ask who recommended us?

ASHLEY

An accountant our venture capital analyst recommended.

ZACHARY

DB Something.

CHRIS

DB Cooper recommended us?

MIKE

He's DB Cooper, Jr.

CHRIS

Fine. Jr.

JEN

So you have VC funding?

ASHLEY

Yes.

MIKE

That's great. It shows you have a solid concept. We'd love to discuss the value we'd bring to that concept as your design partners.

CHRIS

What can you tell us about your line of business?

ZACHARY

We're a Millennial lifestyle brand.

JEN

Interesting. So you're in retail?

ASHLEY

We're a Millennial lifestyle brand.

MIKE
So you're not in retail?

ZACHARY
We're a brand.

CHRIS
For Millennials?

ASHLEY
Yes. And the Millennial lifestyle.

MIKE
Let's come back to that in a bit.
We were recommended for our web
work?

ZACHARY
Our demographic is post-web. We
are on our devices.

CHRIS
I see that.

END OF ACT ONE