

[Scene: The interview room.]

Bob Porter:
The next paper looks like a Peter
Gibbons.

(Peter enters.)

Bob Porter:
Aha! All right. I was just talking about
you. You must be Peter Gibbons. Uh huh.
Terrific. I'm Bob Porter.

Peter:
Hi, Bob.

Bob Porter:
Why don't you grab a seat and join me for
a minute?

(He does so.)

Bob Porter:
Y'see, what we're trying to do here,
we're just trying to get a feel for how
people spend their day. So, if you would,
would you just walk us through a typical
day for you?

Peter:
Yeah.

Bob Porter:
Great.

Peter:
Well, I generally come in at least
fifteen minutes late. I use the side
door, that way Lumbergh can't see me. Uh,
and after that, I just sorta space out
for about an hour.

Bob Porter:
Space out?

Peter:
Yeah. I just stare at my desk but it
looks like I'm working. I do that for
probably another hour after lunch too.
I'd probably, say, in a given week, I
probably do about fifteen minutes of
real, actual work.

Bob Porter:
Uh, Peter, would you be a good sport and
indulge me and tell us a little more?

Peter:
Let me tell you something about TPS
reports...'

(Cut to later. Peter is more relaxed.)

Peter:
The thing is, Bob, it's not that I'm
lazy. It's just that I just don't care.

Bob Porter:
Don't, don't care?

Peter:
It's a problem of motivation, all right?
Now, if I work my ass off and Initech
ships a few extra units, I don't see
another dime. So where's the motivation?
And here's another thing, Bob. I have
eight different bosses right now!

Bob Porter:
I beg your pardon?

Peter:
Eight bosses.

Bob Porter:
Eight?

Peter:
Eight, Bob. So that means when I make a
mistake, I have eight different people
coming by to tell me about it. That's my
real motivation - is not to be hassled.
That and the fear of losing my job, but
y'know, Bob, it will only make someone
work hard enough not to get fired.

Bob Porter:
Bear with me for a minute.

Peter:
Ok.

Bob Porter:
Believe me, this is hypothetical. But
what if you were offered some kind of
stock option and equity sharing program?

Peter:
I don't know. I guess...

Bob Porter:
It looks like you've been missing a lot
of work lately.

Peter:
I wouldn't say I've been missing it, Bob.

(They laugh.)

Bob Porter:
That's terrific, Peter. I, I, I'm sure you've, you've, you've heard some of the rumors around the hallway about how we're just going to do a little (finger quotes) housecleaning with some of the software people.

Peter:
Well, Bob, I have heard that and you gotta do what you gotta do.

Bob Porter:
Well, these people here. First, Mr. Samir Naga...Naga...Naga-worker here anyway!

(Bob laugh.)

Bob Porter:
Mr. Mike Bolton. We're certainly gonna miss him.

Peter:
You're gonna layoff Samir and Michael!

Bob Porter:
We're gonna bring in some entry level graduates for us to work in Singapore, that's the usual deal. Well, it's standard operating procedure.

Peter:
Do they know about this yet?

Bob Porter:
No! No, of course not. We always find it's better to fire people on a Friday. It's statistically shown that there's less chance of an incident if we do it at the end of the week. Anyway, Peter, what we would like to do is put you into a position where you would have as many as four people working right underneath you. This is a big promotion, Peter. Huge.

Peter:
So you're gonna fire Samir and Michael and give me more money?

Bob Porter:
Umm-hmm.

Peter:

Wow!

Bob Porter:

Peter, congratulations. This is one heck of a promotion. And we'll go ahead and get some people under you right away.

Peter:

Listen, I'm gonna go. It's been really nice talking to you.

(He shakes their hands.)

Bob Porter:

Absolutely. It's all on this side of the table, trust me.

Peter:

Good luck with your layoffs. I hope your firings go really well.

Bob Porter:

Wow.