

Larry stares at the phone. The clock reads 7:55. Slowly, he opens the timer and sets it to 8:55.

He stares at the timer, watching it slowly tick down.

He jars himself loose and opens the dialer. He hits "Arnie." The phone rings and rings. Eventually it goes to voicemail.

Larry dials again. This time it rings once, then goes to voicemail.

LARRY
Motherfucker!

He winds his arm back, his phone clenched tightly in his hand.

After a moment, he lets his arm drop and looks around the garage for an idea. The garage isn't much help.

He goes back to his phone to dial Arnie again, then stops, his finger hovering over Arnie's contact card. His eyes zero in on the employer "Ferris Construction" listed at the bottom of the card.

He backs out of Arnie's contact, and scrolls through his contacts again. This time he stops on "Chris Norwood." He hits call.

The line begins to ring. It rings a few more times, then clicks again as the voicemail picks up.

NORWOOD
This is Chris Norwood with Ferris Construction. Feel free to leave a message with your contact info and the reason you're calling. If you need immediate help, call our front desk at 520-8532.

Larry grinds his teeth.

LARRY
Chris, you need to call me back as soon as you get this at 993-2124.
(beat)
It has to do with the Meadowlark groundbreaking.
(beat)
Call me.

He hangs up, and checks the time. 7:58.

Larry scrolls back through his contacts to "Ferris Construction." He hits call.

FERRIS RECEPTIONIST(O.S.)
Ferris Construction.

LARRY
I need to talk with Chris Norwood.
It's urgent.

FERRIS RECEPTIONIST 1(O.S.)
Mr. Norwood's busy with a public
groundbreaking this morning, but I
can leave a message for him.

LARRY
Tell him it's Larry Ambrose. This
is really important.

FERRIS RECEPTIONIST (O.S.)
I'm sorry, did you say Larry?

LARRY
(impatient)
Yes. You're the new girl, aren't
you?

FERRIS RECEPTIONIST (O.S.)
Larry, this is a very large project
and may tie him up all day. But I
will get him the message.

Larry hangs up in frustration.

Bzzzzt. It's a text.

ARNIE
(text)
Manager says I need Norwood.

Viciously, Larry kicks one of the boxes from the stack by the door. The box flies across the room and lands on the desk. Some of the boxes on the top of the pile tumble to the floor.

Larry gets a hold of himself.

He walks to the desk and picks up the box. As he does so, his eyes fall on the Meadowlark packet.

He picks it up and starts flipping through it until he gets to a page labeled "Bid Approval." At the bottom of the page is a signature line for "City Purchasing Agent". There is a messy signature on the line with the name GREGOR HARRIS printed underneath.

Larry texts Arnie back.

LARRY
(text)
Stand by.

Larry puts the packet back on the desk, and pulls out his phone. He opens a browser window to Google, and searches for "Ridgeford Planning Department." A city government page comes up.

He navigates to the "Contact Us" link and dials the number.

RECEPTIONIST
Ridgeford City Planning. This is
Barbara.

LARRY
I need to speak to Gregor Harris.

RECEPTIONIST
I'm sorry, what's this about?

LARRY
Gregor Harris. Can you transfer me
to him, please?

RECEPTIONIST
I'm afraid he's not available right
now. If you could tell me what
it's about, I might be able to find
someone--

LARRY
Tell him it's urgent. It's about
the Meadowlark Parkway breaking
ground this morning.

RECEPTIONIST
I'll try and get him the message.
Is this a good number?

LARRY
Yeah.

RECEPTIONIST
Thank you.

She hangs up. Larry anxiously checks the time. 8:00.

He walks to the overhead door to check for news on the cops.
He hears nothing.