

PERCOLATOR

Webisode 1

"AUTOMATIC DRIP"

by  
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EPISODE 1 - AUTOMATIC DRIP

BLACK

KEY TONES on a cell phone dial a phone number.

It rings.

INT. DICK'S APARTMENT - DAY

Immaculate gadget guy bachelor pad.

DICK, early mid-thirties, designer pajamas, tumbles out of bed already on the phone.

DICK  
Up and at 'em.

A click as someone picks up on the other end.

PROFESSIONAL MAN(O.S.)  
Hello?

DICK  
Hey there, we need to talk.

PROFESSIONAL MAN (O.S.)  
Who is this?

DICK takes off his shirt while still on the phone, it's stuck to his armpit, he pulls, dragging off a long gooey mess of booger-like green substance that pours from his armpit.

DICK  
I'm gonna have to call you back.

INT. STARBUCKS - DAY

Dick is second in line at the counter, his phone glued to his ear. The man picks up.

PROFESSIONAL MAN (O.S.)  
I think you've got the wrong number again.

DICK  
Hey, man, sorry about that earlier,  
I always return my calls.

A Painting comes softly into focus: It's an BIG GREEN ALIEN wearing a Burberry scarf.

Another painting: A group aliens with Santa Claus hats on sing carols around a tree, they hold Starbucks mugs.

Dick is next.

BARRISTA

What can I get for you?

Dick covers the mouthpiece of his phone.

DICK

(Whispers)

Vente, triple shot, skim, half-caf, caramel machiatto extra foam, no whip latte, with 2 Splendas, sip cup, 3 ice cubes in a small cup on the side.

BARRISTA

What's that sir?

DICK

(into phone)

I hate to do this to you again, hold on one second, I really am sorry.

(To Barrista)

I'll have a Vente, triple shot, skim, half-caf, caramel machiatto extra foam, no whip latte, with 2 Splendas, sip cup, 3 ice cubes in a small cup on the side.

BARRISTA

(calls out)

Supersize me a three bullet-whitewater-pheno-barb-gooey-machiatto-extra-calf-slobber-whipless with double ass cancer powder, 3-igloo bricks in a side car!

THE CAPPUCINO MACHINE

Steam flies, hands grab cups, then milk, pours grounds into a coffee ground holder, mechanically into the machine, they froth, the pour tiny shot glasses of espresso, a sort of symphony of coffee making.

Dick picks up his drink at the bar, he takes the 3 ice cubes as a shot. Then gets his first hit of Starbucks.

DICK  
(into phone)  
So, why were you calling again?

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Dick walks briskly chatting away on his phone, wielding his Starbucks cup.

A HUGE EXPLOSION as two cars collide mere feet from the sidewalk. Glass shards fly all around Dick, a woman screams.

DICK  
I'm going to need to ask you to speak up...Yes, yes, we certainly do have different kinds of payment plans, and I'm sure we have one to meet your needs.

INT. DICK'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

In his pajamas.

Still on the phone, Dick switches the TV on, it's a Law and Order rerun, he sits on his neatly made futon and sucks down the last sip of his Starbucks.

DICK  
No, you are in fact, my last call for today. I apologize for waking your children, again. OK, then, good night.

He ends the call. Clicks it shut.

DICK  
Long day.

Dick places his cell phone into a doll house sized BED, with a tiny pillow and sheet. He pulls the tiny sheet over the phone.

CLOSE-UP on CELL PHONE in the tiny bed.

Dick switches the lights off.

The cellphone's light blinks green from under the little sheet.

DICK  
Go to sleep already.

The cellphone light flashes one more time and then stops flashing, it vibrates, then shuts down.

Dick snuggles into his futon and directs his eyes toward the TV.

ON TV

A soap commercial comes on. A beautiful woman rubs soap all over herself in the middle of a waterfall.

A warm soft female voice speaks.

DICK'S EYES fight sleep, then grow heavy, then finally shut.

The TV casts a grey light on Dick's sleeping face.

The light GROWS brighter as Dick's breathing gets deeper, he snores softly.

The light shines HYPER BRIGHT. Dick's sleep deepens.

ON TV

A Verizon commercial: the Verizon Network wear their hard hats and stare at their clipboards.

MALE VOICEOVER (JERRY)

And right now Verizon's Network  
offers you unlimited lifetime  
minutes...if you act now.

The CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW? GUY, 30's bespectacled, in his trademark grey jacket, wears a hard hat. He walks to the front of the Network.

He darts his eyes out of the TV screen as if he can see Dick.

CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW? GUY

Can you hear me now?... Good.

The Can You Hear Me Now? Guy turns to the Network

CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW? GUY

He's out. Hit it boys!

A drum roll as the Can You Hear Me Now? Guy tosses his hard hat aside and grabs a dancing cane.

A big band plays the opening to Cole Porter's "Anything Goes!"

CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW? GUY

(sings)

In olden days, a glimpse of  
stocking, was looked on as  
something shocking, now heaven  
knows, anything goes!

The Network members come in on all sides, tap dancing. They burst out the Fosse hands with saccharine smiles, until the big finish:

They form a chorus line, and begin a kick line, which quickens and begins to sound and feel more military than Broadway.

The Can You Hear Me Now? Guy's eyes glow over green and a BEAM OF GREEN LIGHT reaches through the screen and attaches to Dick's closed eyelids.

DICK'S CELLPHONE comes on, the small green light begins to flash, every 3 seconds.