

A CONVERSATION BETWEEN TWO
STORMTROOPERS ABOUT SAFETY

by Daniel Bell

FADE IN:

INT. DEATHSTAR - WELL LIT CORRIDOR

Two Stormtroopers "relax" in a well lit corridor. Say what you will but the DS has great lighting. They are fed up with the lack of safety precautions. It is almost as if they are expendable. RICO and DAVE are about to go right down 74 floors to HR and air their grievances.

RICO

(leaning)

Look, we have lost too many co-workers. Something is up. You can't possibly think people are getting promoted or are being relocated.

Where are they going to go? On vacation? We are in the middle of nowhere. We have blown up all the planets around us.

DAVE

(arms crossed)

Maybe they are being promoted. Look... and I know we say "look" a lot... if they move

upstairs and are told to go by different names and keep to a code of secrecy, how would we know who was who?

RICO

(leaning and then pointing)

What! No Bro, they are dead. You think that that guy (252526) over there is Randy...

DAVE

(defensive)

Maybe... Hey I am trying to be positive here!

I might be acting like a Gungan but I might be lying to myself but it is a good lie.

It is not like EVERY SINGLE trooper could have fallen off the railings.

RICO

No, you are being a "Bith".

Yes they fell off the railings. WE HAVE SEEN eight people this week.

DAVE

(arms loosely crossed)

Seven people.

A stormtrooper walks down the same corridor and makes an interjection. We do not know who he is. Is just another faceless cog in the machine. RICO and DAVE do not even know who he is. Or

she is.

STORMTROOPER 8008
(walking through)

Nine.

RICO
Nine! We are working in a death trap. We are
being DP'd by this DS DT.

Hey you (looking at 8008) are you okay with
this senseless lack of occupational safety?

STORMTROOPER 8008
(stopping and looking
right at them)
It is part of the job. If you are not
willing to die on the job then you are not
doing your job.

RICO
Look, OSHA should be called...

STORMTROOPER 8008
(uneasy)
Is this an insurgence? I wasn't properly
trained for this. Give me a moment to call
the hotline.

STORMTROOPER 8008 reaches for his comlink as RICO and DAVE try
and scramble. We hear the automated hotline message in the

background. We then hear touch tone dialing as 8008 selects the correct menu. Large organizations are the worst.

DAVE

(running like the dickens)

Frak! Maybe this is why people disappear!

RICO and DAVE split up running wildly around. It is comical. As they run their armor squeaks humorously. And the sound level of the squeaks comes in and out as they run left, right, up and down a few levels.

RICO

(yelling)

I will meet back up with you at the trash compactor level.

DAVE shakes his head in agreement. They continue to run in all directions on the XYZ axes. Trust me it is funny. Totally not cliché. There are a bunch of shots where we just see empty hallways and "rooms" and all we hear is far off squeaking. STORMTROOPER 8008 continues his call to the work hotline. We can only hear his side of the call.

STORMTROOPER 8008

(responding to his orders)

...So I wait for them to fall of the ledge?

We can barely hear the robotic hotline but it beeps in agreement. We hear frantic squeaking coming closure. DAVE and RICO come into view. They have ended up right back where they started. Numbnuts. They are moving at quite a pace. Maybe they

are running too fast. DAVE runs right off the ledge and into the void.

DAVE
(yelling and falling)
He followed us!

RICO managed to stop himself from the same fate. He is a good few feet from the ledge but he is still in the line of site of STORMTROOPER 8008.

RICO
(yelling)
Nooo!

RICO gestures towards STORMTROOPER 8008. He is trying to last minute reason with him. He is determined not to die like DAVE.

RICO
(yelling)
BOOB, this is exactly what I've been talking about!

STORMTROOPER 8008 being a consummate professional and a square, whips out his blaster. He takes his big blaster into both of his hands. He knows what he has to do next. He shoots.

RICO
(freaked and uprooted
from the blast)
Yowza!

It missed. By a lot. Without being directly hit by the blast RICO body is uprooted and thrown sky high...quickly going over the railing.

RICO

Shite.

RICO falls and quickly (defying physics) meets up with DAVE. They take a few seconds in silence taking in their last few moments. They are falling so quickly that they are free falling.

RICO

(falling but calm)

I mean. This wouldn't be such a bad deal if they took the time to put in some safety features.

Dave

(calmly falling)

Yeah.

RICO

(falling in calm manner)

They have artificial gravity here on the Deathstar. They spend some money on that. We are not flying around like Geonosians.

Dave

(patiently falling)

Yeah.

RICO

(plummeting with poise)

I am going to say this one last time.

Reverse the gravity at the bottom of the metal ball of death.

You don't need gravity around this whole thing.

Hell, turn gravity off down here and you don't need railing. It's like a cushion.

And you don't go splat___*

Splat and then Splat. RICO and DAVE land on a pile of dead Stormtroopers. They didn't die on impact but are pretty close to The End. To add insult to injury the camera stays on the their limp bodies in the mass Deathstar grave.

Splat... Splat...Splat. Several Stormtroops rain down from the heavens. A few more fall down. There is no knowing how many have fallen of the ledges.

Splat. One Stormtrooper flies down and plows right into DAVE like a 250 pound snowball.

RICO

Ow.

FADE TO BLACK: