

STICKY JUDGMENT

{a short}

written by

Kendra Louka

LOGLINE: After landing her dream job, a hopeful young woman learns what the job really entails and wonders if she belongs there.

KendraLouka@gmail.com



WET COUGHING/GASP catches Betty's attention. Scans the room--  
No one around. *Odd*. Continues working.

LATER

Thumbing through the papers, she closes the folder. *Complete*.

4      INT. BOSS'S OFFICE - EVENING      4

She delivers the file to a desk in an empty office with a view. The file is slightly angled.

She straightens it.

Leaves.

5      EXT. SIDEWALK - EVENING      5

Walking down the sidewalk, Betty beams with a pep in her step. Coming up to a --

Pile of garbage--

A healthy, potted houseplant alongside. She stops, picks it up. Checks it out.

6      INT. CUBICLE - DAY      6

Betty carries in her new plant--

Sets her purse and coat down.

Takes a seat--

And finds the best spot for her plant on the desk.

Rotates it so the leaves have room. Thinks. Rotates it again.

PLOP! The file lands on her desk. It has a RED POST-IT on it.

The straight face delivering it leaves.

She opens it and every single page--

Has a RED POST-IT--

In the middle of it.

The last one is crooked. Betty fixes it. Straight.

She sits back. Eyes darting in search of... answers? *Should she even be here? Does she even want this?*

Sits up. Scoots her chair closer to the computer. Types away.

Licking her finger to turn each page. TYPE. TURN.

PLOP! A file falls. No-one above her.

She slides it over to finish her original file.

PLOP! Another file comes down.

She SIGHS.

Looks to the clock: 4:30pm.

Game face of determination.

She TYPES. TURNS.

A woman sets a piece of paper down in front of Betty.

A printed out Excel sheet: empty with boxes.

Betty takes a pen. Fills it in using the computer screen.

TYPES.

WRITES.

Finished. Pulls over the next file. Goes through it.

Betty smells...

Smoke! Emitting from the desk--

Scoots her chair back. Stands to--

7 INT. BOSS'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

7

Find someone to help! No one around.

8 INT. CUBICLE - CONTINUOUS

8

Returns with an extinguisher/cup of water/check it out--

SMOKE GONE. Clear.

She collects her folders and her purse and coat--





Everywhere on her body, her lunch. Betty slowly exits.

16      EXT. BUSINESS BUILDING - DAY      16

Covered, Betty steps out and sits on a bench.

Opens her lunch bag. The post-its like a weight on her spirit. Unwraps her white bread sandwich.

A breeze BLOWS removing a RED POST-IT.

She watches it fly away.

She sets her sandwich down and--

Faces the wind. Walking into the breeze, eyes closed--

POST-ITS blow off one--

By--

One.

17      EXT. SIDEWALK - CONTINUOUS      17

Betty picks up the pace and JOGS.

More flutter off.

She looks back to see them go. She BEAMS.

Sprinting. All but a RED POST-IT are off. Winded, she rests her hands on her knees to catch her breath.

Looks ahead at a--

18      EXT. CLEARING - CONTINUOUS      18

Patch of land, a calm forest, a flowery meadow. The light cutting through tree branches as if a spotlight waiting for her, beckoning her. Bird TWEETS grow louder. Paradise.

She softens and plucks off the last RED POST-IT.

19      EXT. BUSINESS BUILDING - DAY      19

Throws it in the garbage on her way inside.



YELLOW--

GREEN--

WHITE--

ALL THE COLOR POST-ITS cover her, her desk--

Her wall--

The plant.

Betty sits back in her chair. Peels a POST-IT off her nose.

She removes them from the plant--

Throws them away--

Scoops up her plant--

Grabs her purse, and--

24      EXT. BUSINESS BUILDING - DAY      24

Leaves. Marching down the sidewalk.

25      EXT. CLEARING - DAY      25

To the clearing, to nature from before. Taking in the space with relief. Turns to her plant.

Goes to an area of sunlight and digs with both hands.

Pulling the earth up to make way for her--

Plant to go in the hole.

She pats the ground planting her leafy companion. She sits back and--

Lays next to it. The sun on her face, on her plant. *Free.*

Her POV of the sky. Birds flying. The BRIGHT sun.

THE END