

ORDERS TO FULFILL

by

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for IMPACT50

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1. INT. FACTORY PRODUCTION LINE - DAY

In a featureless room with barred windows on a high floor. Silent WORKERS, overseen by the foreman, Mr. KING (whose company mobile is prominent in his chest pocket), are assembling a small device, each adding one or two parts, then pushing it on to the next. TOLMAN (on the end of the line) stands out as the most perfectly conscientious. Although we are shown BCUs of the process, it is not clear what the product is.

KING

Lee! You're falling behind!

LEE

Sorry, Mr King, it's the new capacitors. Wires wrong size.

KING

Fingers wrong size, Lee. You fail and there'll be deductions...
Doshi, don't chat!

There is a brief hum and vibration in LEE's trouser pocket. He fishes it out and peers surreptitiously below the bench.

KING (V.O. & I.V)

Eight thousand units by [Monday], weekend or no weekend. Tolman! Good work!

A message on Lee's mobile ends "...THE WORLD'S ABOUT TO END COME HOME LOVE".

KING

What you up to, Lee?

The PRESIDENT's broadcast comes up silently on LEE's screen, with a strap: HUGE METEOR TO HIT EARTH IN (2) HOURS. KING appears at his shoulder.

KING

Give it!

LEE (TO KING AND NEARBY WORKERS)

My wife. The world's about to end.

KING

For you - yes. 25 dollars fine.

KING glances at the screen, and then pockets the mobile.

(CONTINUED)

KING

You can't fool me, you tricksters.

Seeing Lee and others (except TOLMAN) leaving the bench, KING strides to the door and locks it. LEE advances.

LEE

My wife doesn't play tricks. Let me out!

KING sneers and tosses the KEY out of the barred window.

KING

I'm here to see you fulfill the order, so everyone back to work.

LEE, momentarily stunned, sees KING take out LEE's mobile, grin, and smash it with his foot. As LEE rushes for KING's chest pocket, KING takes out his company mobile and gleefully throws it too out through the window. The WORKERS slowly return to their benches, except for LEE, who agitatedly strides to another window. They are very high up.

LEE (SHOUTING)

Help! Let us out! Help! We're locked -

From behind, KING clamps a strong hand over LEE's mouth. At that moment, a loudspeaker van drives along the street.

LOUDSPEAKER

Department of Security! Department of Security! A meteor will hit the Earth at [17.22 GMT]. Go Home. Do not panic. Department of Security!

All the WORKERS, except TOLMAN, rush to the window.

ALL WORKERS

Help! Help! Look up! Up here! Help!

KING stands for a moment bemused, and then rushes to a window.

KING (SHOUTING LOUDEST OF ALL)

Help me! Help me! And bring up some trolleys, too! Help me! Help me!

TOLMAN picks up the final completed devices and packs them into a large carton. Upon it is printed a logo and the make: "WorldSaver Smoke Detectors".

(CONTINUED)

PRODUCTION NOTES

You'll need at least a dozen workers. If you can marshal thirty or more, the scene will become more effective.

You could vary the order number according to the number of workers (the script suggests 8,000 from 40 workers, although we give no finite production time).

KING should rule by the power of the company that lies behind him as much as by his obsessive and capricious nature - and far more than by physical force alone.

Ionization smoke detectors contain a number of components that you can buy cheaply in bulk on the internet. For components see, for example:

<https://www.explainthatstuff.com/smokedetector.html>

<http://www.madehow.com/Volume-2/Smoke-Detector.html>

Useful components would include capacitors, resistors, switches, small printed circuit boards, small electric alarm horns, parts for plastic housing, batteries, etc. etc.

Do try not to give away the real purpose of these devices until the reveal shot at the end.

PR.