

"THE MANHATTAN PROJECT"

Written By
Peter John Ross

Sonnyboo productions
2663 Indianola Ave, STE 23
Columbus, OH 43202
(614)-261-6070
ross@sonnyboo.com

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EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - MORNING

It's 8:00 A.M. and there are already several cars parked outside the building with an indiscriminate corporation housed inside. Like all the buildings in this corporate park, there is no logo on the front, just the address numbers.

INSERT : "EPISODE 1 : The Manhattan Project"

INT. OFFICE HALL, IN FRONT OF MEN'S ROOM

JIM BLACK, gets a drink at the fountain. He wipes his lips, then enters the Men's Room.

INT. MEN'S ROOM

Jim casually walks over to the urinal, looks down then, unzips his pants and lets fly the urination. As he is going, the door opens behind him and enters PHIL, or as he is known "BIG PHIL", a man who easily weighs 320 plus.

Phil is already unbuckling his pants and doing some kind of emergency dance as he waddles to a stall.

Once the door to the stall closes, Big Phil exhales loudly.

PHIL
(with resignation)
Oh boy, here it comes.

CU of Jim's face as the flatulence noises begin. He winces, then the first wave of odors hits and Jim can hardly stand up. He hits the wall next to him and grabs his nose.

From within the stall comes the sound of rustling. Jim turns his head slowly in the direction of the stall. Chomping noises & the distinct crunching of chips can be heard.

PHIL
Goodness gracious ! Another one.

Another wave of flatulence and the odor hit Jim like a brick. He scrambles from the men's room, just as the bag of chips hits the floor.

INT. OFFICE HALL, IN FRONT OF MEN'S ROOM

Jim is covered in sweat and his face is lined. He resembles a Vietnam vet or a hostage just released.

EDWARD walks up and sees Jim put his head in his hands.

EDWARD

Jim, are you okay ? Jim, what happened to you ?

JIM

(frantic and stuttering)

Oh my God...I was in the men's room... and Phil came in... and he.. and he...

EDWARD

Oh my God, you were in there
(points to the men's room)
during 'the Manhattan Project' ?

JIM

Is Phil always like that ?

EDWARD

Hey, there's a reason I walk up to the gas station on the corner just to take a piss.

Phil exits the men's room.

PHIL

Excuse me, there boys.

As Phil passes on his way down the hall, a bit of the smell follows through. Both Edward and Jim wince.

EDWARD

Let's get out of here.

JIM

Jesus, there's two doors and you can still smell it out here.

They leave.

INT. EDWARDS CUBE

Edward sits at his desk and types a message and Jim sits at a chair in the cube.

EDWARD

So there I was one day, just got back from lunch and I really had to go.

INT. MEN'S ROOM - FLASHBACK

Edward is sitting there, reading a paper.

EDWARD (V.O.)

I was just getting to the sports section when I hear the sound of Phil enter in.

Edward's POV of the feet of Phil walking from one stall to the next. The door to Edwards stall gets tugged and pulled. Phil's eyes try to peek through the slits between the door and the frame.

CU of Edward's eyes going wide as they meet the eyes of Phil peeking through the slits.

INT. EDWARDS CUBE

Edward finishes typing something on the PC.

EDWARD

I mean, is it just me, or is that so wrong ? If the door is locked, you don't need to know who's inside. That's just not right.

JIM

What about the updates ?

EDWARD

Updates ?

JIM

Yeah, the constant descriptions or sudden proclamations about what is happening.

CUT TO:

INT. MEN'S ROOM - FLASHBACK

All we can see are Phil's feet inside a stall.

PHIL

Oh boy, get ready.

From another angle.

PHIL

Ahhhhhhhh. That's more like it.

From the side angle.

PHIL

Just a little bit more.

Seeing the candy wrappers hit the floor and the crunching noises.

CUT TO:

INT. EDWARDS CUBE

Edward stares, his mouth agape.

EDWARD

And what about the eating ?

JIM

To me, that's worse than the commentary. I don't think you should be putting in, while you sending out. Dude, ever wonder why you're overweight ? His idea of a snack is bigger than a four course meal to me.

EDWARD

I remember the last straw to me, it was free pizza Friday ...

CUT TO:

INT. MEN'S ROOM - FLASHBACK

Edward is washing his hands, shown from the mirror POV, and Phil enters, doing his "Pee Pee Dance" struggling with his belt even as he enters the room.

PHIL

(as he waddles over)

That Pizza goes right through me...

The door to the stall closes and the flatulence noises begin, mixed with a sound that can best be described as a bushel of apples being poured into a pale of water.

CUT TO:

INT. EDWARDS CUBE

Edward moves the mouse on his computer.

EDWARD

What I heard then was like a bushel of apples being poured into a small pale of water.

JIM

I'm never going to use the men's room here again, now.

EDWARD

I've got something that might help us.

Edward walks out of his cube, then returns a moment later with a printout in his hands.

EDWARD

(hands the sheet to Jim)

Here, read this, I have to check my voice mail.

JIM

"The bathroom rules of etiquette..."

Edward presses the number on his phone to access his voice mail. He listens while noodling with his pen on a legal pad.

VOICE MAIL (V.O.)

Hey, this is Noel. I was just in this meeting and we were discussing the merger. I swear if those guys from Cincinnati don't pull their heads out of the ground, we'll never get everything in line in time for the conversion. Do you remember how I told you that Roger Downs went to Vegas with us last time? Well, he was getting so drunk that he couldn't stand up. It's amazing to me to see a guy like that heaving in a toilet like a college freshman...

EDWARD

(to Jim)

There's a wierd voicemail here from Noel Wilson, but I don't think it's for me.

VOICE MAIL (CON'T)

I know you met Roger at the National Training last year, so I thought you'd get a kick out of that. Anyway, I was just coming out of the meeting and I was thinking, God, I loved giving it to you from behind...

Edward's pen flies out of his hand, and his eyes go very wide.

VOICE MAIL (CON'T)

You were so good. I loved being inside of you. I can't wait until next week when I get to come back to town and we can get together again. You did things to me that I've never had done.

CUT TO:

INT. MEN'S ROOM

Phil enters, does his "Pee Pee Dance"/waddle and sees on the mirror, and the stall doors, inside and out are printouts of the "Bathroom etiquette" as well as a pre schoolers "How To potty train" brochure.

They are taped everywhere and fresh cans of potpourri.