

NO GOOD DEEDS

Created by Julie Anne Wight

Episode - "A Poor Appraisal"

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ACT ONE

EXT. BANANA SUPPORT CENTER - ESTABLISHING - DAY

A frustrated SHOUT interrupts the quiet of the morning.

INT. BANANA SUPPORT CENTER - ROY'S WORK STATION - DAY

ERNEST (V.O.)

A wise man once said, "Hell hath no  
fury like a man in trouble with his  
wife."

ROY curiously pops his head above his cubicle towards the  
sound of the commotion. ERNEST appears beside Roy.

ERNEST

What's up?

Roy shrugs his shoulders.

ROY

Whatever it is, it isn't good. Mr.  
Stodgeman has been on the phone all  
morning and now he's on the war  
path. Doesn't help that our new  
receptionist is out sick - he  
really seems to like her.

MR. STODGEMAN (O.S.)

Where are my meeting notes? And  
where is my coffee?

MR. STODGEMAN storms into the call center from his office,  
his cell phone cradled into his shoulder as he tries to pull  
his suit jacket on.

MR. STODGEMAN (CONT'D)

(on the phone)

You were supposed to be here over  
an hour ago!

LISA, nearly on the verge of tears, nervously hands Mr.  
Stodgeman a thermos. Mr. Stodgeman stops struggling with his  
suit jacket to take a sip, but burns his mouth.

MR. STODGEMAN (CONT'D)

I said black coffee, Lisa, not molten lava! What are you trying to do, scald me to death?

(on the phone)

No, I can't wait! You'll just have to deliver it when I get back to the office.

(pause)

What do you mean that'll cost extra? How is it my fault that you're late?

Lisa flees back to her cubicle. Mr. Stodgeman passes by Roy's cubicle. Ernest has reflexively dropped down, but Roy is still staring.

MR. STODGEMAN (CONT'D)

(to Roy)

What are you looking at Fiddler?

ROY

Nothing sir!

MR. STODGEMAN

(on the phone)

No! I don't want to be put on hold! Don't you--argh! They put me on hold *again!*

Mr. Stodgeman is still struggling with his suit jacket, and shoves his briefcase and thermos at Roy so he can properly straighten out his sleeves.

MR. STODGEMAN (CONT'D)

Alright everyone, listen up! I'm expecting a very important delivery, but I'm already late for my meeting with Melon Tech. The delivery service says they can't drop off my package unless someone signs for it, and since our receptionist isn't here I need one of you to do it.

Everyone in the office looks away nervously, unwilling to commit to the task.

MR. STODGEMAN (CONT'D)

Well, if none of you are competent enough to sign for a simple package, maybe I'll just have to sign us up for another "Maintaining Office Relationships" workshop with HR this weekend!

ROY

(timidly)

I can sign for your package and put it in your office when it gets here.

MR. STODGEMAN

Are you sure, Fiddler? The package is a gift for my wife, and it needs to be perfect.

ROY

Is it her birthday?

Ernest rolls his eyes and shakes his head.

MR. STODGEMAN

Not exactly.

Roy stands at attention and gives an awkward salute with Mr. Stodgeman's brief case still in his right hand.

ROY

You can count on me sir!

Mr. Stodgeman hurriedly takes back his briefcase and thermos from Roy before exiting the call center.

MR. STODGEMAN

(over his shoulder)

Fine. I'll be back by 4:00, and that package had better be in my office when I get back!

ERNEST

Are you sure about this?

ROY

Relax Pop, how hard can it be?

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWOINT. BANANA SUPPORT CENTER - ROY'S WORK STATION - DAY

Roy glances nervously between his computer screen and a wall clock.

ERNEST

You know son, keep craning your neck like that and you'll end up looking like a dang flamingo.

ROY

The delivery guy isn't here yet. Mr. Stodgeman will be furious if he comes back and his package still hasn't been delivered.

ERNEST

And you'll have to come in on the weekend to boot.

A dirty-looking DELIVERY MAN wheels a large rectangular package towards the front desk with a dolly.

DELIVERY MAN

Package for Stodgeman!

Roy jumps up from his chair and hurries to the front desk.

ROY

That's me! Actually, Mr. Stodgeman is my boss, but he said it was okay if I signed for the delivery.

DELIVERY MAN

Whatever.

The delivery man roughly shoves a clipboard and a pen into Roy's hands for him to sign the package slip. Roy hesitates.

ROY

Should I sign as Mr. Stodgeman or as myself?

DELIVERY MAN

Sign it as the Easter Bunny for all I care, I ain't got all day.

Roy signs the package slip and hands the clipboard back to the delivery man, who then kicks back the dolly and lets the package crash onto the floor with a loud THUD.

ROY  
Hey! Careful with that!

The delivery man waves the clipboard around as he leaves.

DELIVERY MAN  
Not my problem anymore.

Roy kneels down to inspect the roughly handled package.  
Ernest appears at Roy's side.

ERNEST  
That didn't sound good.

ROY  
I know, and Mr. Stodgeman said this  
is a gift for his wife.

Roy pushes the box along the carpet back to his cubicle and  
then struggles to lean it against his desk.

ERNEST  
I thought you were going to put  
that in the boss' office?

ROY  
I've got to check it! Mr. Stodgeman  
will be so mad if it's broken.

Roy grabs a pair of scissors from a cup on his desk and  
slices the tape. He puts his hands inside and shimmies an  
ugly painting out of the box.

ERNEST  
What's it supposed to be?

ROY  
I don't know...but I'm sure Mr.  
Stodgeman's wife will like it.

ERNEST  
Darn shame the frame's so dirty. He  
probably paid an arm and a leg for  
it, too.

ROY  
Yeah, darn shame.

Roy looks over at a supply cart nearby with cleaning supplies  
and paper towels. A slow smile spreads across his face.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREEINT. BANANA SUPPORT CENTER - CALL CENTER - DAY

Mr. Stodgeman returns to the office in a better mood. He speaks into his cell phone as he walks briskly towards his office.

MR. STODGEMAN

Yes sweetheart, the dinner reservations are set for seven. I'll meet you there.

Mr. Stodgeman ends his call and jams his phone into his pocket.

MR. STODGEMAN (CONT'D)

Fiddler! Tell me that package arrived.

Roy jumps up from his chair at his cubicle.

ROY

Yes sir! It's on your desk.

Roy sits back down in his chair, humming happily to himself. Mr. Stodgeman goes into his office, but quickly returns.

MR. STODGEMAN

Fiddler! What happened?

ROY

What's wrong, sir?

MR. STODGEMAN

The frame! What happened to the frame? And why is the painting out of the box, anyway?

ROY

I cleaned it, Mr. Stodgeman. The delivery man was a little rough with your package, so I opened the box to make sure it was okay. When I saw how dirty the frame was I cleaned it so you wouldn't have to. It was nothing a little spit-shine and elbow grease couldn't fix!

Mr. Stodgeman looks ill and clutches at his heart.

ROY (CONT'D)  
What's the matter?

MR. STODGEMAN  
That painting is worthless, but the  
frame is an antique. And you just  
cleaned the patina right off the  
frame.

Roy looks confused.

ROY  
What's 'patina'?

MR. STODGEMAN  
Fancy dirt. Proves how old  
something is. And I paid thirty  
thousand dollars for that fancy  
dirt.

Mr. Stodgeman pivots on the spot.

MR. STODGEMAN (CONT'D)  
I have a few calls to make.

Roy looks on in shock as Mr. Stodgeman walks slowly back to  
his office. Ernest appears at Roy's side.

ROY  
(whispering)  
Galloping gazelles. He isn't  
yelling, but do you think he's  
okay, Pop?

ERNEST  
Son, that is the walk of a man who  
has to face one of the most  
fiercest creatures on the planet:  
An angry spouse.  
(beat)  
And you couldn't have just left it  
in his office, could you?

SMASH CUT TO:

TITLE CARD: "NO GOOD DEEDS"

END OF ACT THREE

TAGINT. ROY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Roy and Ernest sit on the couch watching TV while Roy eats his dinner. *The Antiques Roadshow* is on and an appraisal can be heard.

APPRAISER (V.O.)

And you're saying this painting has been in your family for the last two hundred years or so?

PARTICIPANT (V.O.)

Yes, but we decided to polish up the frame before bringing it down to the roadshow, just in case we got on TV!

APPRAISER (V.O.)

I'm so sorry to tell you, but you just cost yourselves about fifteen thousand dollars off the insurance estimate.

Ernest gestures towards the TV.

ERNEST

Well, at least *they* did it to themselves.

Roy sinks further into his seat in shame as he continues to slowly eat his dinner. His cell phone BUZZES and he pauses to look at a message. Roy groans and tilts his head back.

ERNEST (CONT'D)

When does the workshop start?

ROY

7:00 A.M.

END OF EPISODE