

CELEBRITY CRISIS MANAGEMENT

In Hollywood, to get attention you need a crisis.

Faith de Savigné

CHARACTERS:

Ron-Manager

Maurice-Hairdresser

Tula- Greek Image Designer

Robin-Personal Assistant

*DARK WITH MANY VOICES TALKING
AND YELLING AT ONCE. THEN RON
YELLS OUT.*

RON

"This is a disaster!"

*LIGHTS UP with Ron yelling
into his computer/phone. Then
the other characters will talk
to him at once. Though they
are in an office together they
are talking to each other
using their phones or laptops.*

MAURICE, TULA, ROBIN

It's not my fault, I didn't do it. Don't blame me!

*RON points to the screen at a
picture they can all see. they
all look at the screen in
silent horror.*

RON

Not on a Brittany-Lindsay-mascara-meltdown-level but... it's up there!

ROBIN

Eww.

TULA

It's worse than Eww, it's hideous, it's..

MAURICE

Oily, unkempt, overtreated... I've never seen anything so-

RON

Public. Looks like she died and kept walking.

TULA

Ya, like a zombie makeover. I mean, only the dead would be caught in...like what is that?...a synthetic puke-green dog-eaten track suit? Is it legal to sell something so against all the laws of fashion?

RON

How did this happen? I'm on top of things before they happen because I make it happen and then this. I almost popped a vessel when I saw it. I can't take any more stress. I'm already on 500 milligrams. All my work's undone (*He massages his temples and rocks back and forth*)

MAURICE

Your work? I can't tell you how many hours I spent on that head. I've lost hair over it.

ROBIN

(She is constantly writing, texting and typing as well as stretching out strands of hair as a nervous habit)
You're lucky you have any natural fibers left. After her last stunt...I'm bald from the stress.

RON

Oh, I thought you were just trying to be trendy. It's still your fault.

ROBIN

Me? I'm already spending like eighteen awake and six dream hours organizing her life. Every other P.A. I talk to says I'm worse than a stalker. My therapist says I need to make official boundaries. My life coach says this job is too life-consuming. And my astrologer says my universe is out of alignment. I'm-

TULA

How the hell did she find such a shocking ensemble? I prepared every piece to go with her hair, skin and aura.

ROBIN

Tula, I told you, she has to be dripped-fed *everything*. I coordinate her schedule down to the nano but lately she's going off and I get blamed...gawd. *(Lets out a big sigh and closes eyes as if doing a relaxation exercise)*

RON

You were suppose to make sure she never went anywhere unless PERFECTO!

ROBIN

If I could drug and preserve her in a coma, I would.

MAURICE

I've seen the coma look, kinda dull, flattens the back.

RON

Maurice, your rep as the "magic headman" is gonna take a dump. Look at these others.

*He points at his laptop.
everyone lets out their
horror.*

TULA

They must set their filters on gross.

MAURICE

This isn't just a bad lighting-angle moment.

ROBIN

She just ran out. Without make-up!

MAURICE

All my fabulous work. Those extensions took ages and look!
Like seaweed from the black lagoon.

RON

So what's with the blood and dirt?

ROBIN

Oh, and then she tripped and fell in a pile of leaves the
leaf-blower guy didn't clear up.

TULA

Ya, but there's like goo all over her.

ROBIN

She was eating organic Kimchi when she ran out.

MAURICE

Is that vomit?

ROBIN

No, it's a low-cal-soy-half-in-half-decaf-rappachino.

RON

This ruins everything, the whole image, it's... I can't even
take in...

TULA

I put together a perfect package, Robin. And you destroyed
it.

ROBIN

Oh yeah, blame me. I keep it all moving. Without me-

MAURICE

The sky and your false eyelashes would fall? Think that
highly of yourself? By the way, did you do your own dye job?
It's like Lady Clairol with a bad allergic reaction.

TULA

(Looks towards ROBIN) You know you do need some uplifting. I
thought it was the light but under your eyes? It's like tired
mud holes.

ROBIN

I'm not falling for your sell job. I can't afford either one
of you.

*MAURICE Purses his lips and
pulls on his hair like she
does.*

RON

Does anyone have anything?

They all look in their bags or pockets and pull out a pill to offer him.

I like the blue ones.

He takes it from TULA and the others swallow the pills while they are out. He points to the pictures.

RON (CONTINUED)

That's the morgue look. I want to know who let her out in this mess, without make-up. I told her and you know that means you, that she was never to leave without her persona on. There are cameras everywhere, at every time, they never rest.

ROBIN

All I know is I was booking a spray tanning session while organizing her trainer-

TULA

-that cute Mexican?

MAURICE

-no, he's Brazilian (*They both nod in agreement that he's cute*)

ROBIN

-while her real estate agent was emailing some properties and I was arranging a shoot to try to get her on *Celebrity Property* and pleading with the host Blaine, he's so-

RON

-big now.

MAURICE

Slicked back-too much product.

TULA

Too shiny, needs more matt.

RON

Yeah, and he acts it. What do we have to bribe him with to get her on? He likes dogs, doesn't he? Then send him a picture with her...what is that?, dog?, Boo-hoo?

ROBIN

No, Boo-boo. That's who really caused this fiasco.

MAURICE

I knew that mutt was involved. We had to put champagne in its personal dish to get it to sit still while I colored its hair.

TULA

That's nothing, I had to style outfits so they could be seen out together. It's so pathetic. Ron, I'm not getting paid enough to do animals. She wants bracelets on its like what do you call them? Anklets?

RON

What's The story, Robin? Out with it.

MAURICE

That's right dear, you know how to up-chuck.

ROBIN

Well, that fur ball tripped on *your* (to TULA and copies her accent) *'outfit and hurt its anklet. It was limping.'* I swear it's a better actor than she is. She went hysterical and ran out to the vet. I couldn't stop her and she went flying. Seriously, I was so glad to get some peace. She's so demanding.

MAURICE

At least she's not a thrower.

ROBIN

Better not be 'cause its in my contract, "no phone throwing, no drug procurement, no--"

TULA

I have to put animals in mine next time, plus no stealing of my clothes or boyfriends or-

MAURICE

Oh, I should add no last minute high-drama call-outs. And if it's after 3AM that's double time...

RON

Do we need her more than she needs us? If this catches on she could be dropped. There's always the wrong move, the drug-booze-car-rage shoplifting disaster they won't get their rep back from. There's too many people clawing to get in. She's just another clawer. And once the image is scratched, it's back to the valley for her.

TULA

She's from the valley? Well she can forget about her face and just do porn shots.

MAURICE

Then she won't need make-up with the other stuff that's gonna end up on her face.

ROBIN

I know, you'd think she was from royalty the way she orders me around. "Sweetie, would you mind going out and getting..." When did I become a chore whore?

TULA

That's your job, sweetie.

ROBIN

The next one I P.A. for is going have a gardener and a zookeeper.

RON

We need to get a campaign to capitalize on this. A social media blitz of good-will. And this time she's got to look like she's been dipped in plastic.

TULA

I do plastic look. I got technique with glossy sunblock and rice powder. It's looks fab but she'll have to come into the salon. I'm not doing a call-out.

RON

We do what has to be done to save this.

MAURICE

Sometimes hair is so damaged even I can't save it.

ROBIN

(*To Maurice*) Yeah, sometimes some go into wellness clinics and come out worse.

RON

You mean rehab? That's getting good numbers on TV, can we get her an addiction?

MAURICE

You can make good contacts inside. I met my ex there.

ROBIN

Did you call it "overworked syndrome"?

MAURICE

No, I was "on a spiritual retreat."

RON

She use to listen to everything we told her and now-

ROBIN

Now she thinks she can run things. She doesn't even feed that gopher.

MAURICE

When I first gave her that new do, y'know after changing her colour, she was transformed. And now what do I get but ...*suggestions* as if she would know what's best for her head.

TULA

How much time did we spend coming up with her look? Ve create it and she takes the credit.

MAURICE

Oh I know darl. That's what I should do next time, attach a sign to the strands "hair by Maurice." Actually I'm thinking of re-branding it " Hair Sculpture" because that's what I'm creating. Works of art. They just so don't get all the effort.

RON

Didn't you do the same thing for that tattoo chick on that new show? Is anyone handling her?

ROBIN

Forget it, Aldo's her agent. They've already got a whole team on her.

RON

Shame. Well this team effort bombed out.

ROBIN

She says she's over-worked. And we created her.

MAURICE

I don't want to come up with a new creation only to have my name shamed when she freaks out. She's my billboard.

TULA

Ya, but she's not *that* big *that* I get *that* much coverage.

RON

All our names will be smeared when they find out her team.

ROBIN

Yeah, well the other night at that benefit? I went over and over with her the names of her dress designer but she nipped into the bathroom and came out all strange and couldn't even remember what dimension she was in. And when I went to take that dog off her?, because she was teetering on those stilts? The monster bit me!

MAURICE

That rodent is so smart. He's really the one running things.

TULA

He always gets his way.

ROBIN

I know, even this time I hoped Boo-boo would have been caged in the doggy hospital so I could get a *moment*. But no, she made me call a private duty vet nurse and we set up a whole convalescent room for him. The little shit.

RON

Alright, we can call in a photographer and set up a post-accident healing story of triumph. Let's push some dog merchandise, get something going with PETA. Robin, I want you to organise coverage of her at every opening-restaurants, gates, windows. Anything where she can be seen to be recovering from her ordeal.

MAURICE

(Looking at laptop) You know, Boo-boo takes a good picture.

TULA

Ya, my nail designer thought he handled his pedicure like a pro.

RON

See, with a situation, you can't wilt and hide behind sunglasses and compounds, you gotta come out swinging harder.

ROBIN

What happens if she doesn't go along?

RON

She'll be wheeling a trolley on Sunset before the sun sets.

MAURICE

If a celeb falls on the Walk of Fame, are the homeless the only ones to pee on them?

ROBIN

I thought this would teach her humility. This'll make her even more puffed-up.

MAURICE

But more easily popped.

RON

What I still don't get is how they got the shots?

TULA

Someone must have been out to get her.

ROBIN

(With a guilty smile, she waves her mobile as if taking a picture and then flicks it off and starts to gather all her things up) You know, things get leaked. Hard to find the source, so many holes. Celebs and animals-

MAURICE

If only you could put both on leashes.

RON

Is anyone representing Boo-boo? That boy has potential.

THE END