

INT. DUALITY CORPORATIONS RECRUITMENT CENTER - DAY

The year is 2060. A POOR MAN enters the recruitment center of the Duality Corporation, a company that supplies labor for various companies. While shaking and still coming down from a drug-induced state, the man walks towards the front desk. The ATTENDANT (30s-40s, green hair strand) greets the man.

ATTENDANT (GREEN)

Good afternoon, sir. How are you doing today?

POOR MAN

... Fine, thank you. I ... I need a job.

ATTENDANT (GREEN)

Not a problem. Would you interested in our Slingserve program?

POOR MAN

Yeah. I'll take anything at this point.

ATTENDANT (GREEN)

Well, I believe this will be the perfect job for you.

Attendant pulls out the paperwork for the program. Poor man looks at it briefly before beginning to sign the agreement. Attendant notices this.

ATTENDANT (GREEN)

Before you get too far, I need to inform you of your rights within the company. Nothing major, just some legal stuff.

Poor Man continues to sign the form, barely paying attention to Attendant.

POOR MAN

Sure, go ahead.

Attendant begins to go through some of the legal work notices.

INT. DUALITY FACILITY - HALLWAY (LEADING TO QUARTERS)

Inside the Duality facility, DON JENNINGS (late 20's) is walking down the hallway towards his post. The facility

houses several thousand employees on a 24-hour permanent basis. Don happily walks by his resident-employees as he headed to his post.

ATTENDANT (GREEN) (V.O.)

OK, for starters, in Duality's Slingserve program, you will be living and working in our facility 24/7, everyday. Your shifts comprise of 2 12-hour shifts. Your A shift will have you working on tasks from in and around the headquarters. While you are required to stay on the premises at all times, this is not a prison and everything you will need can be obtained on site. As such, this shift is when you will have your free time. Your B shift will be on-call in cybernetic support through an android unit that all of our clients have in their locations. You will link with them neurally through your pod and work for your client whenever called upon. When you are not working, your pod will put you in a sleep state so your body can rest. What we're doing here is the best way to commit to our clients and to our society. You're going to love it here.

Don gets ready for his B shift, laying down in his pod and preparing to enter suspension mode. As the pods around him activates for his cohabitants, his starts but suddenly stops. Don opens his eyes in confusion.

DON

That's not right.

INT. DUALITY FACILITY - ATTENDANT'S OFFICE - DAY/NIGHT

Don walks into the Attendant's office in order to officially document the incident and receive his new assignment. As he enters, Don sees that it's DEBBIE (same as ATTENDANT). As with all androids of her type, she resembles a fit, aesthetically pleasing middle-aged woman and is programmed for human interaction for Duality Corporation. The only feature that stands out is a strand of hair that is a different color for ID purposes (light blue hair strand color). Despite Debbie being an android, Don feels like he has a strong, personal relationship with her, even if it might just be her programming. For an android, Debbie has an

odd fascination with human media and entertainment, which helps strengthen her personal connection with Don as well as with other employees in the facility. Because he has known her since childhood, their interaction resembles that of really close friends, which at times can become jokingly flirtatious (which Don would never pursue). Don's relationship with Debbie is so strong that he was the one that gave her the name originally. Don is blinded by the sunlight as he passes by the door.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

Oh! Sorry about that.

Debbie quickly waves her hand which causes the projected windows to go into night mode.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

I like to work under daylight. How you been, Don.

DON

Now that I'm with the lovely Debbie, my night has just gotten better.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

While I do love the name, you don't have to call me that. I'm no different than the other androids.

DON

Yeah, but the name makes you stand out. You're the sexy one.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

Well, you're not wrong there.

After sharing a hug and a laugh, the two of them sit down at her desk.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

Let's get started before security storms in here.

DON

Sure.

Debbie looks up for a moment to tap into the facility's database to know why Don is in her office.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

So, the logs tell me that your pod is

malfunctioning. That had to be interesting.

DON

Yeah, been here most of my life and I've never seen that happen. I figured I had to go through the process of logging the report and I'd get a replacement or something. So how long is that going to take?

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

Well, you're right. A replacement is being prepped for you, but that could take a while. The pod's are very sensitive pieces of equipment. From brainwave monitoring, teletransmissions, body regulations, ... unless you want to risk brain death.

DON

No, not really.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

Thought so. I'd commend the commitment if you did, but then I might lose my favorite talking buddy.

DON

Too bad you end up doing all the talking.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

That's cause you're the only one here that treats me like a person.

DON

Well, you're like family to me. You got me through my first date during academy. Hell, you've known me since the first day I came here as a kid, so I wouldn't have it any other way.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

Aww, you always know the right things to say.

Debbie looks to the side, analyzing results in the database she's connected to.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

I just went through our database and while you will have to wait for the repairs to finish, I found something interesting in your legal profile.

Don looks confused, wondering what this surprise might be.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

Since you came here years ago as an orphan, you're entitled to some old benefits that were grandfathered in after the policy changes. Calculating the parameters to your benefits over 23 years and you have ... 3 weeks of vacation time available!

Don maintains a puzzled look, leaving Debbie the only one exited about the available time off in the room.

DON

Ok ...

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

Why aren't you more exited? People in the past would kill for more time away from work, at least that what the movies say.

DON

I wouldn't even know what to do during a "vacation". I don't even know what vacation is.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

Look Don, you have a very rare opportunity in this country and I think you should take it. Besides, what could it hurt? Worse case is you don't have enough fun.

DON

Can't I just hang out here for that time?

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

No. Besides the logistics, it's going to look sad and depressing. And you know that's true coming from me.

(reaches out hand)

Your wrist, please.

Don extends out his arm. Debbie grabs his wrist, which bears a databand (smartwatch equivalent).

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE)

I've uploaded your itinerary. A car will be waiting for you outside. Just try to have fun. Do it for me, please.

DON

(sighing in acceptance)

Alright, fine.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Don, being driven by a vehicle under teletransmission control (JIM), arrives at a cabin in remote woods. Don's reaction to the sight is perplexed, wondering what has he gotten into. Don's pondering is interrupted by Jim.

JIM (V.O.)

Hey, Don. The android left a phone in the glovebox for you. Make sure to grab it before you leave.

DON

Thanks.

Don opens the glovebox and grabs the device. Don looks up again and starts to ponder.

JIM (V.O.)

I don't get it. Three weeks to do nothing, what's the point.

DON

My thoughts exactly.

Don is still puzzled by his predicament, but relents for now and begins to head inside.

DON

Well, I might as well get this over with. I'll see ya if I see ya.

JIM (V.O.)

Good luck. I'd hate to be you.

Don gets out of the car, grabs his luggage, and walks towards the cabin while the car leaves the area. Don looks at the cabin still filled with dread, but continues to walk through the front door.

INT. CABIN (LIVING ROOM) - DAY

Don enters the cabin and looks around. The layout of the living space puzzles Don since they clearly have no work use. Don plays the audio file queued up on the phone. Don continues to look around the cabin, still trying to grasp his situation.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE) (V.O.)

If you're hearing this, then this means I died.

(dramatic pause followed by laughter)

Sorry, I always wanted to do that. I watch too many movies. Anyhow, I wasn't sure if you'd be able to connect with me since the boss likes to be as far away from civilization as possible when he's on vacation. That even includes TVs, so I added a tablet to your luggage. At this point in the year there's never anything good on, at least for me, but you'll probably find something to tide you over. Just in case. I'm going to call you in a week to check on you, but please try to stay and have fun. I think you'll like it there.

Debbie's comments do not soothe Don's fears. Don proceeds through the house.

INT. CABIN (BEDROOM) - DAY

Don enters the bedroom and puts his stuff down. He looks at the bed for a long time. It's still daytime, but the only thing he knows is work, so since he can't work physically, he tries to fall asleep. There is some tossing and turning, but he eventually falls asleep.

INT. CABIN (BEDROOM) - NIGHT

Don wakes up, happy in his seemingly standard routine. However, he looks around and realizes that it's the middle of the night.

DON

Dammit.

Don angrily lays back down and tries to fall back asleep, but all he does is fidget in the bed. Hours pass and he still

can't go back to sleep. Sounds of nature can be heard cutting through the night, sounds that would be soothing for most are extremely annoying to Don. After failing at both falling asleep and tuning out nature, Don gets up and tries to figure out something to do. He goes through his luggage and pulls out a tablet along with a piece of paper with instructions. Using the instructions, he opens the streaming service under Debbie's profile and looks through the library. Her selections are a mix of reality, dramas, and some comedies, but most of them look like garbage to Don. One show catches his eye and he begins to watch it. After the show plays for a moment, the app prompts him to make a comment. He shrugs and does so, writing that "It is good". For a moment, nothing happens. But suddenly, he receives a bunch of angry responses upset because he thinks the show is only good. Don is taken aback by all of the comments and quickly turns off the tablet.

DON

A little bit too social. I don't see
how Debbie loves this stuff.

A ray of light from outside gets Don's attention. It's sunrise, a sight that Don has never seen in person.

EXT. SCENIC VIEW (OUTSIDE CABIN) - DAWN

He walks outside and walks towards a nearby sightline to take in the view, which leaves him in awe.

DON

Amazing.

It's the only thing he can say as he gazes into the distance. After some time, Don begins to get hungry and he heads back to the cabin.

INT. CABIN (KITCHEN) - DAY

Don walks into the kitchen and looks at what he has to deal with.

DON

No processor. Well, looks like I'll
have to do it old-school.

Don grabs a pot from a cabinet and fills it with water. He looks in the refrigerator and is confused by the sight. Only real food, no processed packs.

DON

What the hell? What am I supposed to do with this stuff?

Don looks in the refrigerator and after going through some things, grab the eggs. Don looks at an egg, the first one he has ever seen.

DON

So this is what one of these look like. Weird.

Don puts the egg in the water and starts boiling it. Some time passes while Don is waiting for the egg to boil.

DON

Is there a timer or something for these things?

Don decides to look again in the refrigerator and look at the foods that he's stuck with.

DON

Where are the protein packs?

Don notices a note on the refrigerator door. He grabs it and begins to read. It's from Debbie saying "Got food for you. Figured you should go all the way with this break".

DON

She's trying to kill me.

Don then smells something strange. He then looks looks at the pot and thinks that the boiling egg is the cause. He quickly takes it off the eye and takes out of the egg, which looks overcooked. He starts to awkwardly eat it, which it does not taste good. While trying to spit out the egg, he looks at Debbie's note and sees that there's a second one behind it. He gets up to look at it and it reads "P.S., the tablet has a cookbook on it. Have fun!"

DON

Thanks for the early warning, Deb.

Don retrieves the tablet, puts it on the counter, and grabs more eggs out of the refrigerator.

EXT/INT. CABIN (MONTAGE) - DAY/NIGHT

With access to instructions, Don makes a cheese omelette. While it's basic looking, Don is really proud of what he did.

This spurs him to try out other new things while he's on his vacation. Going through the boss's things in the cabin, he tries out fishing, virtual deer hunting, hiking, and even painting. The boss has a lot of stuff at the cabin, so Don takes the opportunity to try everything either for himself or to at least make Debbie happy. As days pass, Don begins to appreciate his vacation time. He even gets a little better at real cooking.

EXT. LAKE NEAR CABIN - DAY

Don is wading in a nearby lake just letting time pass by. Don is in a world of joy that he's never been in before. His peaceful state is interrupted by a voice in the distance. He lurches up to focus and sees a young woman calling to him, trying to get his attention. Don swims towards her on shore. The young woman (SADIE BENTLEY; late 20's) nervously begins to talk to Don.

SADIE

Hi! Um ...
(extends hand)
Sadie.

DON

(while shaking hand)
Don. Nice to meet you.

SADIE

(while hesitantly gazing at Don)
Yeah, ... very nice. Um, I don't mean to interrupt what you were doing, but I was supposed to be out here with my friends and they bailed on me. They are all on some business or model deal or something. Anyhow, them being gone leaves me with all of this food for the trip ... and I saw you by yourself ... and I was wondering if you would like to have dinner with me.
(quickly trying to defuse)
You don't have to if you don't want to. You look like you were enjoying yourself.

Don laughs at Sadie's reaction and ironically at the notion that he was enjoying himself. While trying to defuse, Sadie is taking in sly glances at Don.

DON

Naw, I was just wasting time. That

sounds great.

(looks at himself after he
realizes Sadie is sneaking
glances)

I guess I should head home and put
some clothes on.

SADIE

Yeah, ... you're right. You should.

Sadie quickly writes address on a piece of paper.

SADIE

Here's the address.

DON

Thanks.

(takes paper)

Alright. I'll see ya later.

Sadie waves at Don while she continues to stare. Don
confidently walks away towards the cabin.

INT. CABIN (BEDROOM) - DAY

Don enters the bedroom and starts to get dressed for the
dinner with Sadie. He puts the note down on a desk before
starting. The phone goes off, it's Debbie trying to contact
him. Don answers.

DON

Hey, how ya doing, Deb?

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE) (V.O.)

Uh, ... great.

(Short, confused pause)

Wow, something must have changed cause
you sound like you're actually having
fun.

DON

Well, I finally decided to watch the
clouds roll by for once in my life.
Embrace taking a break.

ATTENDANT (DEBBIE) (V.O.)

Well I'm thrilled to hear that.
Shocked, but thrilled. I really called
just to check on you and see if you
wanted to come home early, but I
imagine that you don't.

Don looks at the note laying on the desk, with the window in the background offering a scenic view.

DON

Nope, I'm right where I need to be.

Now done with changing, Don grabs the note and leaves his room, leaving the scenic view to brighten the cabin.

END