CRENSHAW

Bob! It’s a pleasure to see you, as always. Please, sit.

*(BOB takes a seat at the table. STUART looms.)*

CRENSHAW

Stuart, thanks for grabbing him for us. You can head home.

STUART

I’m happy to wait outside. In case you need something after the meeting.

CRENSHAW

Please, Stuart. Wouldn’t it be nice to spend a little time outside the studio? Make some friends? Take up a hobby?

STUART

I’ve been meaning to brush up on my crosswords.

CRENSHAW

Not what I had in mind, but it’ll have to do. Go brush up *at home*. Thanks.

*(STUART exits, downtrodden.)*

BOB

(*Calling after him.*)

Let me know if you need any pointers!

CRENSHAW

Isn’t he a dear?

BOB

Six weeks is impressive. I don’t think we’ve had a P.A. last that long for the whole run.

CRENSHAW

He’s certainly determined. And I’m determined not to let him see how much I like him. But we’re not here to talk about Stuart, Bob.

BOB

Yeah, I didn’t reckon we were. Brenda said there was an email, so I figured this was pretty important.

CRENSHAW

Brenda. Is she here? In the studio?

BOB

Yeah, she’s around somewhere. She was planning on attending this.

CRENSHAW

Sticking her nose where it doesn’t belong. As usual. Can I tell you a secret, Bob? I get the feeling that your agent doesn’t like me very much. Because I think that she thinks that my job should be her job. That she deserves it more than I do. Which she doesn’t. But that’s my suspicion. My secret little suspicion.

BOB

What is this meeting for, exactly?

CRENSHAW

Bob, thanks for asking that. You keep me honest. I ask you here for a meeting, and you want to know what it’s for. I respect that. I’m sorry to say that it’s not good news.

BOB

What? What is it?

CRENSHAW

Frankly, this was inevitable. It was just a matter of when. And after the report numbers from the last weeks, we have our answer. It’s now.