

FARDAY CAGE SKETCH

By

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DARKNESS

A Man walks onto stage. He is in the midst of a conversation on a cell phone.

MAN

(into phone)

I know it's late, honey. Don't worry I'll be back as soon as I can. I'll clean up the bird mess first thing.

LIGHTS UP ON STAGE

A large room with a FARADAY CAGE in the centre. Inside the Cage sits a BUSINESS EXECUTIVE.

The MAN (Faraday Cage Technician) stands outside the cage.

The Door to the cage is wide open.

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN

(holds up a dead carrier pigeon.) I got your message. It's nice to see that you are getting used to technology, Bob.

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE

I do my best, but I really don't understand why you insist on killing my birds.

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN

In the hopes that you'll never be able to train another one to find my house. How do you even know where I live?

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE

The pigeons have a bit of a knack for Google. (beat) And I am one with the animals.

Faraday Cage Technician looks confused.

(CONTINUED)

FARADAY CAGE EXECUTIVE
Why are you even up at this hour?

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE
I find this time of night to be
most productive.

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN
Because the Far East markets are
open?

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE
No, because the wife is asleep.

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN
Who'd you think let me in?

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE
Don't you have a key?

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN
Why did you call me here at this
time of night?

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE
These memory problems are causing
me so much pain. I want what I
always want which is for you to fix
the cage and stop the waves of
technology making me ill.

The Faraday Cage Technician slams the cage door shut.

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN
I'll send you the bill via email.

The Business Executive opens the cage door.

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE
If I close the door, the signal on
my phone goes.

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN
That's kind of the point.

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE
But if I've got no signal on the
phone, then I'm not contactable.

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN
Yeah, that's the point.

(CONTINUED)

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE

But if I'm not contactable, then technically I'm not working from home and it counts as a vacation day.

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN

Bob, you work for a technology firm. Don't you think you'd better tell them that you've been having strange reactions to electricity and technology in general?

The Business Executive taps his index finger against his temple and nods in a knowing fashion.

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE

That's exactly how I've been so successful at climbing the corporate ladder. Distancing myself from combativeness of the office, but always being available. If I told them I'd be out of a job so fast it'd be unbelievable. Then I wouldn't even be able to afford to leave the house.

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN

So you're not going to tell them?

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE

I'm going to outsmart them. (beat) I'm going to cut a hole in the cage so that I can still make phone calls.

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN

Don't you want to rephrase that?

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE

Okay, you're going to cut a hole in the cage so that I can still make phone calls.

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN

That's defeating the entire purpose of the cage.

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE

Are you sure?

(CONTINUED)

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN
Yes. Just like the last time I did
it. (beat) And the time before
that.

Faraday Cage Technician points to some patch jobs on cage.

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE
I'm sure that won't happen this
time. So will you?

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN
(sigh)
Fine.

The Faraday Cage Technician takes a screwdriver and
unfastens the hinges from the door. The door falls to the
ground.

FARADAY CAGE TECHNICIAN
Ta da! (beat) Now, try and get some
sleep.

The Faraday Cage Technician exits and The Business Executive
drops to his knees and cries in pain. He picks up a cell
phone and dials a number.

BUSINESS EXECUTIVE
Hi Joe. The door to the Faraday
cage seems to have fallen off. Can
you come and repair it? (beat)
Yeah, sure. Double time is fine at
this hour.

END SKETCH