Red Rock: An Original Dramatic TV Series

Jared Shalek
INT. DUNKIN DONUTS--MORNING

JIM, 40, and RIP, 62, wait in line for their coffees. Jim is the levelheaded general manager of Red Rock Construction, Inc., and fits the part in every way, from his efficient way of leading people to his determination to succeed. Rip is the grizzled veteran of Red Rock with a penchant for being careless with the equipment.

JIM
You ready to tackle the drain pipe today?

RIP
That’s all we got left to I guess.

JIM
Once we get it done we should be all set. Let’s finish it up the right way.

RIP
I’m with you on that.

A beat.

JIM
Why don’t they ever have enough people working here?

RIP
I don’t know.

JIM
And whoever they do have takes forever to make the coffee.

RIP
Since when are you this stressed over coffee?

JIM
It’s not the coffee.

They step up to the register.

RIP
Medium black.

(CONTINUED)
JIM
Medium regular please.

They go to pay. Jim gestures with his money.

RIP
Thanks Boss.

JIM
Anytime.

A beat.

JIM
Anyways, I’m thinking a lot about the bid tomorrow.

RIP
Scott’s working on that right?

JIM
Yeah. He better get it too. We’ve been screwing around long enough, waiting for the work.

They walk away from the register and out of the Dunkin Donuts.

EXT. DUNKIN DONUTS--CONTINUOUS

They walk towards Jim’s car, a sport utility vehicle.

JIM
We’ll be done here in a week, and the work is gonna dry up unless he can hit this.

RIP
He’s usually reliable. Since we got him as a pup he’s been a winner.

JIM
True, but it’s that shaky commitment and crybaby attitude that could ruin him.

They get into the car.

RIP
Maybe he gets this one.

(CONTINUED)
INT. MANNY’S BEDROOM--MORNING

MANNY, 38, rushes to get dressed as he leaves for work. He
is cocky, funny, and lightens Jim’s mood when things get too
serious. He lives with his longtime girlfriend MARYLIN, 34,
who is attractive and usually tolerant of Manny’s habits.
She is in the bathroom as he knocks.

MANNY
What’re you doing in there? I need
to hurry up an get out of here!

MARYLIN
One minute!

Manny leans against the door waiting for a second. The door
opens, and out comes Marilyn.

MARILYN
Trust me, it won’t kill you to be
five minutes late.

INT. MANNY’S BATHROOM--CONTINUOUS

Manny is applying deodorant and washing his hands.

MANNY
They need me out there.

MARILYN
Yes, I’m sure they’ll be devastated
that they’re missing out on your
sarcastic remarks and constant
flatulence.

MANNY
I do other stuff too.

Manny exits the bathroom, they walk away.

INT. MANNY’S KITCHEN--CONTINUOUS

MANNY
You know I been with Jim so long
that this is our 15th job in Boston
together?

(CONTINUED)
MARILYN
You’ve been with him longer than you’ve been dating me.

MANNY
Well he doesn’t take forever in the bathroom.

MARYLIN
Nothing’s stopping you from waking up a few minutes earlier and getting in there first.

She hands him a bag, he looks in it.

MANNY
Kielbasa! Yeah! You’re the best baby. I’ll see you tonight.

He rushes out of his house, into his truck, backs up without looking, and speeds off.

INT. MARCO’S HOUSE--MORNING

MARCO, 39, is in his kitchen eating breakfast with his wife, ANDREA, 38, and kids CASSIE, 8, and TONY, 5. Marco is a religious family man who takes his work seriously.

ANDREA
Honey, remember to pick up the dry cleaning after work. Tony needs that white shirt for church on Sunday.

MARCO
He doesn’t have any other shirts?

ANDREA
He outgrew his other ones. I’m taking him next week to get more.

MARCO
Okay. Well I’ll grab the clothes after work.

ANDREA
Be careful.

She hands him lunch and kisses him.
MARCO
Thanks honey. I’ll see you later tonight kids.

KIDS
Bye daddy.

Marco walks outside, gets into his truck, buckles his seat belt, looks both ways, and backs out.

INT. OFFICE--MORNING

BETSY, 43, is typing at her desk. She is a loyal office manager with an edge, stressed with work and her family. SCOTT, 30, enters. He is thin, well put together, and dressed too nicely to be in the construction business.

BETSY
You know you’re ten minutes late?

SCOTT
All I have is the bid. No worries.

BETSY
There will be worries if you don’t hit it.

SCOTT
Yeah I know it’s important. But I’ll get it.

Scott leaves for a moment and returns with a cup of coffee.

BETSY
Well you haven’t hit much lately and once Boston finishes we’ll be in a jam.

Betsy raises her voice and talks faster.

BETSY
And I like having a job and you should too, but this is the last bid for a couple weeks and we need it. And my kid isn’t feeling well and my husband is out of town and babysitting you is the last thing I need to do.

Scott just stares at her.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

BETSY
I’m sorry. I’m just not having a great day. And you coming in late didn’t make it any better.

SCOTT
Well I didn’t know my arrival times had such an effect on you.

BETSY
Don’t flatter yourself.

A beat.

SCOTT
Well if the interrogation is over, I’d like to get to work on this thing.

BETSY
It’s about time.

EXT. JIM’S CAR--MORNING

Jim and Rip stand outside Jim’s car looking over plans. They are in an open, torn up lot where they have been doing earth work for several weeks, including building a road.

JIM
So we’ll move some of this junk around and then get to the pipe. From these drawings, it should be right there.

Jim points to a spot. Rip takes a closer look.

RIP
Yeah that looks right. The water main is about ten yards away according to this, so we shouldn’t have a problem. I can get right in there with the Komatsu and get it out.

JIM
Okay good.

Manny and Marco pull up to the job site simultaneously. Manny hops out, grabs his hard hat, and heads over to Jim and Rip. Marco sits in his tuck and begins to read a Bible.

(CONTINUED)
MANNY
How we doing today boys?

JIM
If we get this thing done so I can get home for skirt steak then we’ll be okay.

MANNY
Oh, skirt steak night! Right, it’s the week after your anniversary.

RIP
What the hell is skirt steak night?

JIM
(To Rip)
I’ve never mentioned it to you?

MANNY
Well it hasn’t happened in three years.

JIM
Yeah but that’s because--

MANNY
Every year he takes his wife out for their anniversary. If it’s a good dinner, she makes him a nice, big skirt steak the week after to thank him. Boss likes skirt steak.

JIM
After two years of bad luck, we had a winner last week at Lascala, over in Newton. Their veal marsala earned me a skirt steak.

RIP
Let’s hurry up then. Wouldn’t want a good meal going to waste.

JIM
You said it.

A beat.

RIP
(Nodding towards Marco)
He still reading that Bible everyday?

(CONTINUED)
MANNY
I think his wife makes him do it. I dunno, maybe he likes it too. Maybe he can say a little prayer for us.

JIM
Lemme go get him.

Jim heads over to Marco’s truck.

RIP
I’m not gonna need any help from upstairs.

MANNY
(Pointing to Rip’s missing right pinkie)
Well last time we did this kinda thing you needed help from the doctor.

RIP
I got it in a jar at home if you want to see it.

MANNY
Just worry about not losing the other one.

EXT. MARCO’S TRUCK—MORNING

Jim knocks on his window.

JIM
Hey, reverend, let’s go.

Marco rolls down his window.

MARCO
(Smiling)
It’s still not too late to change career paths.

JIM
I’m not holding you back. But right now we gotta go.

Marco rolls down his window, puts his Bible in his center console, gets out of his truck, and grabs his hard hat as they walk over to Rip and Manny.
EXT. JIM’S CAR--MORNING

MANNY
Sermon already over?

JIM
(To Manny)
Shut up.

Jim holds the drawings up for them to see.

JIM
Take these with you to the trench and get out there.

EXT. JOB SITE--MORNING

Rip gets into the excavator while Manny and Marco supervise. Manny holds up the plans while Marco stands over the existing trench. Manny takes another look at the plans and signals for Rip to shut it down. Rip shuts the Komatsu off and hops out of the machine.

RIP
What’s the problem?

MANNY
The water main looks out of place.

RIP
Nah Scott probably has it right.

MARCO
Let’s go double check with Jim to be sure.

They walk over to Jim.

EXT. JIM’S CAR--MORNING

The three men approach Jim, who’s on the phone.

MANNY
Hey boss, this doesn’t look right.

JIM
(Into phone)
Yeah... listen I’ll have to call you back.

He hangs up and looks at Manny, Marco, and Rip.

(CONTINUED)
JIM
What’s the matter?

MANNY
Well Scotty boy has the water main
drawn ten yards away from where
we’re digging. But there’s no way
there can be that much distance
between water mains. I’ve never
seen it done like that before.

JIM
Lemme get him on the radio.

Jim hits a button on his mobile phone, connecting with Scott
on his two-way radio.

INT. SCOTT’S OFFICE--MORNING

SCOTT
(Into phone)
Go ahead Jim.

EXT. JIM’S CAR--MORNING

JIM
(Into phone)
Yeah I just got a question about
the drawings here for the drain
pipe.

INTERCUT:

SCOTT
(Into phone)
What’s that?

JIM
(Into phone)
Are you sure you got the water main
in the right spot? Because that
puts a lot of distance between
water mains. Just seems unusual.

SCOTT
(Into phone, irritated)
It’s right. I drew it up and it’s
right.

(continues)
JIM
(Into phone)
Okay. I just wanted to make sure so we don’t screw it up.

SCOTT
(Into phone, more irritated)
Well you already knew it was right. I have this bid you need for tomorrow and I can’t be worrying about stuff I already took care of. I gotta get back to work.

EXT. JIM’S CAR--MORNING

JIM
(Into phone)
10-4.

Jim hangs up.

MARCO
(Aside to Manny)
What’s with Scott?

MANNY
(To Marco)
On a short leash with this bid. Boss needs him to win it.

Jim overhears him.

JIM
There’s no leash. I just need to stay on top of him.

A beat.

JIM
Okay let’s do it. You go ahead and I’ll be there in a minute.

The three men walk over to the trench.

EXT. JOB SITE--MORNING

Rip gets in the excavator again, as Marco stands over the trench and Manny holds the plans. Manny signals to Marco that they are within range and to start digging the rest of the trench. Rip looks out to Marco and the surrounding stakes to ensure accuracy. Marco gives him a hand signal to

(CONTINUED)
start digging. Rip lowers the excavator bucket into the ground. He keeps lowering the bucket, as Manny and Marco give him the sign to do so. A strange, loud noise is suddenly heard by all three men. Rip immediately stops digging, as the men feel the ground shake. At that moment, water comes shooting up from the ground like a geyser. The three men exchange looks, as we cut to...

EXT. JIM’S CAR--MORNING

Jim is reading a set of drawings, and looks up to see the water shooting out of the ground, as he realizes that Rip hit and broke a water main. Jim drops the plans on the ground as a look of disbelief comes over his face.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

EXT. JOB SITE--DAY

Jim is running over to Rip, Manny, and Marco. He arrives at the spot of the water main break.

JIM
What the hell happened!?

Rip, Manny, and Marco look at each other briefly, then at Jim. Rip responds, dumbfounded and much calmer than Jim.

RIP
I dunno boss.

JIM
Every single time with you Rip. What’s that, the fourth one you’ve hit in the last three years?

Rip is growing irritated.

RIP
I’m telling you Jim, this one wasn’t me!

JIM
Well figure it out!

Jim storms off, and Manny chases him.

(CONTINUED)
MANNY
Hey!

Jim keeps walking away.

MANNY
Hey! Will you wait a minute!

Jim stops in his tracks as Manny approaches.

MANNY
It wasn’t his fault. I know he can be an idiot with a missing pinkie, but we watched him the whole time.

A beat.

JIM
(Realizing who’s fault it is)
I’m gonna kill Scott.

They hurry over to Jim’s car.

MANNY
If you do I’ll help Rippy bury him behind the office.

EXT. JIM’S CAR--DAY

Jim lays the plans on the hood of his car.

MANNY
(Pointing at plans)
Water main wasn’t where we thought it was. The spacing was off on the drawings.

Jim thinks for a moment as Rip wanders over.

RIP
Did he explain it?

JIM
Yeah. Fix it.

Manny and Rip run over to the site as Jim folds his arms, still stunned.
INT. OFFICE--DAY

Betsy is crunching numbers on a calculator as the phone rings. She answers, and it’s her son’s school nurse.

BETSY
(Into phone)
Red Rock Construction.

INT. NURSE FLETCHER’S OFFICE--DAY

NURSE
(Into phone)
Hi Betsy, it’s Nurse Fletcher.

INTERCUT:

BETSY
(Into phone)
Please tell me he’s okay.

NURSE
(Into phone)
Sorry Bets. He vomited in class.

BETSY
(Into phone)
Any chance he gets better?

NURSE
(Into phone)
We’ll keep him for a bit and see if he’s good enough to go back to class.

BETSY
(Into phone)
Okay thanks. Keep me posted.

Betsy hangs up and immediately calls her husband, BILL, 45, a tall, balding computer salesman who is currently in Pittsburgh on business. He picks up the phone.

INT. BILL’S CAR--DAY

BILL
(Into phone)
Hey honey.
INT. OFFICE--DAY

BETSY
(Into phone)
Tyler threw up at school. I’m praying I don’t have to go get him.

INTERCUT:

BILL
(Into phone)
Maybe he’ll get better.

BETSY
(Into phone)
Or maybe he won’t and I’ll have to leave the office even though I have a million things to do. You’ll be back tomorrow right?

BILL
(Into phone)
Sorry honey, not until the weekend.

BETSY
(Into phone)
Ugh alright. Well I hope the trip is going well. I gotta go.

Betsy hangs up.

EXT. MARCO’S TRUCK--DAY

Manny and Marco are walking towards Marco’s truck.

MANNY
Wasn’t Rip’s fault. Scotty drew it up wrong.

MARCO
For sure?

MANNY
Oh yeah. He screwed the pooch.

MARCO
I dunno what’s gonna happen to that kid. He’s gonna be in some hot water if he doesn’t get the bid.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:  

MANNY
Maybe if you had prayed a little bit harder. I’ll tell Jim to leave you in the truck until lunch the next time we do a drain pipe.

Marco shrugs it off and grabs two shovels.

MARCO
He seems like a good kid. Smart. Always nice to me when I run into him.

MANNY
Not gonna cut it though. He’s developed such a poor attitude and doesn’t care the way he used to.

They grab one piece waterproof suits out of Marco’s truck.

MARCO
Yeah I’ve noticed that.

Manny steps into his one piece suit, followed by Marco.

MANNY
Jim won’t go for it much longer. He’s a fair boss, usually patient, but he’s starting to lose it.

MARCO
Let’s get out there and fix this so he doesn’t lose it right now.

They walk away purposefully towards the trench.

INT. SCOTT’S OFFICE--DAY

Scott is writing at his desk. The phone rings and he answers. It is a Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority official named PETER, 48, broad shouldered and with a number of plaques on his office wall.

SCOTT
(Into phone)
Red Rock this is Scott.
INT. PETER’S OFFICE--DAY

PETER
(Into phone)
Scott. Peter over at the MBTA. How ya doin’?

INTERCUT:

SCOTT
(Into phone)
Hey Petey how’s it going?

PETER
(Into phone)
Not too bad, not too bad.

SCOTT
(Into phone)
Good to hear that. I’m just busy finishing this thing to get over to you guys tomorrow. 10 right?

PETER
(Into phone)
You got it.

SCOTT
(Into phone)
Okay good.

PETER
(Into phone)
What did Jim think of the revisions last week?

SCOTT
(Into phone)
What do you mean?

PETER
(Into phone)
The revisions that came out last week. They added guard rails to the shoulder of the road and changed the concrete color from gray to red-pigmented. You didn’t know this?

SCOTT
(Into phone)
I had no idea.

(CONTINUED)
PETER
(Into phone)
We left a message with Betsy.

SCOTT
(Into phone, irritated)
Well I didn’t get it.

PETER
(Into phone)
Take it up with her then. And get to work because it’ll take a while to fix. They added quite a few guard rails.

A beat.

SCOTT
(Into phone)
Okay.

Scott hangs up abruptly.

EXT. JOB SITE--DAY

Jim is outside the trench overseeing Manny and Marco shoveling in the trench. Rip is in the Komatsu digging around the trench.

MANNY
Let’s go Marco! We gotta find the valve to shut it off!

Manny digs ferociously to try and find the valve as Marco arranges a pump.

JIM
Get rid of the pump! Let’s shut off now and pump later!

Marco shuts off the pump, grabs a shovel, and helps Manny dig. They toss the dirt as Rip opens up the area around them and Jim instructs them where to look. As they dig, the water level in the trench increases, as the water continues to spout and approach chest level.

JIM
Hey! Get out! Let’s go! It’s getting too high!

(CONTINUED)
MANNY
One more shot!

Manny faces the water head on and takes some digs at the trench to no avail as Marco starts to climb out. Manny then realizes that he cannot fight the rising water and gets out of the trench with a hand from Jim.

JIM
Marco, set it up and grab Ronny! Manny you help him pump and then Rippy will help you!

Jim walks towards his car and radios Scott.

INT. SCOTT'S OFFICE--DAY

SCOTT
(Into phone)
Yeah Jim.

EXT. JIM’S CAR--DAY

JIM
(Into phone)
You gotta get out here now! Rip nicked the water main.

INTERCUT:

SCOTT
(Into phone)
What an idiot!

JIM
(Into phone)
The plans say otherwise. Just get out here ASAP.

SCOTT
(Into phone, incensed)
What!! I have this huge bid with all these revisions to deal with.

JIM
(Into phone)
Bid revisions? What are you talking about?

(CONTINUED)
SCOTT
(Into phone)
Something about pigment and guardrails. Nothing I can’t handle, but it certainly doesn’t give me time to go out there and play with you guys.

JIM
(Into phone)
If you don’t get your ass out here in a half hour you may as well go home and stay there because you won’t ever work here again.

SCOTT
(Into phone)
Alright. Be there in 20.

Scott heads out of his office and rushes by Betsy.

INT. OFFICE--DAY

BETSY
Where are you running off to?

SCOTT
Boston. Rip hit a water main. I have to go deal with it.

BETSY.
What!?

SCOTT
I’ll be back.

Scott takes steps towards the door but turns back.

SCOTT
And why didn’t you give me that message from Peter at the MBTA about bid revisions?

BETSY
I put it in your mailbox.

SCOTT
You know I don’t check my mailbox.

BETSY
No I don’t. And who’s fault is that?
SCOTT
I don’t know! Just put it on my
desk so I know what the hell I’m
doing when I get back!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. IRWIN’S HOME--DAY

Irwin, 55, is sitting at home watching TV and eating in his
living room. He is the aging, ailing owner of Red Rock and
his face shows the wear and tear of 30 years in the
business. He moves slowly and has many health problems. As
he eats, the phone rings. It is Jim.

IRWIN
(Into phone)
Hello.

EXT. JIM’S CAR--DAY

JIM
(Into phone)
Irwin it’s me.

INTERCUT:

IRWIN
(Into phone)
Hey Jimmy how’s it going in Boston?

Jim has a pained look on his face.

JIM
(Into phone)
It’s…it’s going good.

IRWIN
(Into phone)
That’s my boy.

JIM
(Into phone)
Yeah, well, I need a--

IRWIN
(Into phone)
Hey who’s the inspector for the
city of Boston? Is it still
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)
IRWIN (cont’d)
Maloney? Man that guy was one tough SOB.

JIM
(Into phone)
Nah they got a new guy, Basella. Anyways—

IRWIN
(Into phone)
You know what that Maloney guy once told me?

JIM
(Into phone)
Listen Irwin. I need you in the office.

IRWIN
(Into phone)
Now?

JIM
(Into phone)
Right now. Try to get there ASAP and work on Scott’s bid. Thanks.

Jim hangs up quickly as Irwin looks confused.

IRWIN
(Into phone)
Okay.

INT. WATER DEPARTMENT--DAY

Marco is in the Boston Water Department. He approaches a man named RON, 45, short, stout, and loud, whom he is familiar with.

MARCO
(Frantically)
Hey, Ronny, we need you guys down out our site. Now.

RON
Calm there down there, buddy.

MARCO
We hit a line.

(Continued)
RON
What do you mean hit a line?

MARCO
Scott had faulty drawings and Rippy hit the water main because of it.

RON
Jim must be upset.

MARCO
Yeah but he just wants it fixed.

RON
Okay we’ll follow you out. I’ll grab my team and a set of drawings.

MARCO
Grab every set of drawings known to man within a five mile radius.

RON
(Laughing)
Will do Marco.

Marco hurries away as Ron goes back to find his men.

RON
Let’s go boys, we got a break!

INT. OFFICE--DAY

Betsy is on the computer at her desk as the phone rings. It is Nurse Fletcher again. Betsy answers.

BETSY
(Into phone)
Red Rock Construction.

INT. NURSE FLETCHER’S OFFICE--DAY

NURSE
(Into phone)
It’s Nurse Fletcher again.
INTERCUT:

BETSY
(Into phone)
This is the follow up call right?
Where you say that he hasn’t been
back and his teacher called you on
the intercom saying that he’s fine.
That’s this part, right?

NURSE
(Into phone)
Afraid not. Vomited twice more and
developed a nice fever of 100.4.

BETSY
(Into phone, frustrated)
Alright I’ll be there in a few to
grab him.

NURSE
(Into phone)
Okay Bets. Lemme know if there’s
anything I can do to help.

BETSY
(Into phone)
Nah I’m fine. Just one of those
days.

EXT. JOB SITE--DAY

Rip is working on pumping water out of the trench as Jim
pulls him aside.

JIM
I need you to grab the part so we
can repair the main.

RIP
That the 6-inch valve on this one?

JIM
That’s right.

RIP
You got it.

Rip starts to walk away.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JIM
Hey! Do you know where you’re going?

Rip turns around.

RIP
Yeah I’m going to Ferguson’s.

JIM
Nope.

RIP
But I thought we get all of our stuff there.

Rip walks towards Jim.

JIM
Not anymore. They screwed me last week so we’re going to Sampson’s now

RIP
Hmmm never heard of them. Where are they?

JIM
Off 128, exit 19, make a left at the light at the end of the ramp and he’s right there.

RIP
I’ll be back.

JIM
Step on it!

INT. OFFICE--DAY

Irwin enters the Red Rock office with his old, rusty briefcase in hand. As he enters, Betsy is gathering her jacket and keys and hurrying out. She barely sees Irwin as she rushes by him. He calls out to her.

IRWIN
Hey Betsy! I know I’m not around as much as I used to be, but I don’t even get a hello anymore?

Betsy stops and looks at Irwin.

(CONTINUED)
BETSY
Irwin?

IRWIN
Is that a question or a greeting?

BETSY
Sorry. I just didn’t expect to see you here.

A beat.

BETSY
Speaking of which, why are you here?

IRWIN
Jimmy called me and told me to come in. Said we needed some help.

BETSY
(Under her breath)
You can say that again.

IRWIN
What was that?

Betsy hesitates, realizing that Irwin may not know what happened yet.

BETSY
Nothing. Always good to have you around here Irwin.

IRWIN
Always good when I get the call to help.

A beat.

BETSY
Yeah just answer the phones and you’ll be fine. You can take a look at Scott’s bid if you want.

IRWIN
Yeah Jim mentioned that.

BETSY
(Hurrying out)
Use that to keep you busy. It’s always always good to have you check that stuff over.
EXT. OFFICE--CONTINUOUS

She gets into her car and speeds off, as Irwin stares blankly at the car.

EXT. JOB SITE--DAY

Marco pulls up in his truck, with Ron and three other men pulling up in a van a moment later. Marco hops out and walks over to Jim.

MARCO
We got Ronny and his best guys on it.

JIM
They got the right drawings?

Ron gets out of the van, juggling five large scrolls as the three men follow with tool boxes.

MARCO
(to Jim)
I think the square footage of the governor’s office is somewhere in those things.

JIM
Well if we ever knock out the water on Beacon Hill, I know where to go.

Jim addresses Ron as Ron approaches.

JIM
Thanks for coming Ron. Let’s go take a look.

They hurry towards the site with Marco and Ron’s three men as Ron fumbles with the scrolls.

RON
It’s all here, so we should be able to see where Scott screwed up.

He and his men lay the drawings out side by side. They are all similar and for the same area, just from different time periods. Jim and Marco are looking intently at them as Manny comes over, soaking wet.

MANNY
(Pointing to a scroll)
It’s that one, right there.

(Continued)
MARCO
What’s that one?

MANNY
(Picking up the drawings)
This is the right set of plans.
This is where the water main was.

He points to an exact spot.

MANNY
Scott’s drawings had nothing here.

RON
You sure?

Marco is inspecting the drawings.

MARCO
The date is from six months ago.
Pretty fresh set.

Jim brings over another set.

JIM
And these match the ones we have.
So let’s match them up with the
ones Manny has...

They put them side by side.

JIM
These are different.

Marco checks the ones Jim is holding.

MARCO
(Addressing everyone)
Five years ago.

Jim has a look of stunned silence on his face. Realizing
Jim’s anger, Manny steps up and talks to Ron.

MANNY
How’d we get the wrong ones Ronny?

RON
We surveyed some older sites
recently and found some undetected
materials, which are in the newest
drawings.

(CONTINUED)
JIM
(Gathering himself)
So he got the wrong ones?

RON
I guess so. I don’t know why.

As Ron finishes, Scott’s car pulls up. Everyone looks at each other, as Jim’s face turns from silence to anger.

MANNY
Easy there Boss. Give the boy a chance to enter his plea.

JIM
Well we’re gonna follow the ‘guilty until proven innocent’ theory on this one.

MANNY
Let’s see what he has to say.

Jim, Manny, Marco, Ron, and Ron’s men stand there in a semi-circle as Scott gets out. He stands up and looks at them as they all stare gravely at him.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. JOB SITE--DAY

We pick up with everyone staring at Scott.

JIM
(Trying to stay calm)
You have one minute to explain how you picked up the wrong plans.

Scott approaches the group.

SCOTT
I didn’t get the wrong plans. I drew up everything perfectly and whoever missed the main out here and hit it screwed up. Not me.

JIM
Ronny. Tell him. My blood pressure is high enough.

Ron brings over the plans.

(CONTINUED)
RON
Ya see Scott, you were working off
the old drawings.

SCOTT
(In shock)
I got the wrong drawings!?

Everyone looks at Scott for a beat, and then...

JIM
Did you even ask them if there were
newer ones!? Do you know how much
money you cost us today!? Do you
even give a damn!?

SCOTT
Alright! Alright! I get it. Geez.

JIM
Don’t gimme ‘geez’ Scott. This
stuff is too important. Your work
affects too many people to dismiss
me like that.

A beat.

JIM
Now get your ass back to the office
and finish that bid. I don’t care
what kind of revisions Peter gave
you this morning. You get that
thing done by the time I get back
there.

SCOTT
Yes sir.

Scott walks away, defeated.

EXT. OFFICE--DAY

A news truck is pulling up to the Red Rock office. Reporter
TOM DOWNING, 43 and wearing an impeccable trench coat,
emerges as two cameramen follow with some equipment. The
lead man walks up to the door and knocks.
INT. SCOTT'S OFFICE--CONTINUOUS

We see Irwin looking over the bid and making marks on it using various colors of highlighters. When he hears the knock, he gets up walks over to the door to answer.

INT. OFFICE--CONTINUOUS

    IRWIN
    How can I help you gentlemen?

    TOM
    Hi, I'm Tom Downing from Channel 7 news. Our news room just received word that your company caused a major water main break in the city of Boston and that the water department is in the process of shutting down the water supply for the surrounding blocks. Are you aware of this?

    IRWIN
    (Confused)
    What?

    TOM
    What'd you say your name was sir?

    IRWIN
    My name?

    TOM
    And position with the company?

    IRWIN
    My name's Irwin, and it doesn't really matter what my position with the company is. Now tell me that again.

    TOM
    You're company broke a water main. We got calls from pedestrians in the area telling us about it. We're heading there now, do you have a statement?

    IRWIN
    No.

Irwin shuts the door and walks away.
EXT. OFFICE--CONTINUOUS

TOM
(To cameramen)
This guy’s useless.

They walk away.

INT. OFFICE--CONTINUOUS

Irwin is walking with a smirk on his face back to his office.

INT. TYLER’S SCHOOL--DAY

Betsy waits in the school lobby for her son, TYLER, 10, thin and polite, as Nurse Fletcher emerges from her office with him.

NURSE
He’s doing a little bit better, still got that fever though.

TYLER
Haven’t thrown up in over 20 minutes though Mom.

BETSY
Wonderful.

NURSE
Thanks for getting him Bets, I know you’re a busy woman.

BETSY
I’m not going that gray am I?

NURSE
(Laughing)
Not yet.

BETSY
Thanks again for taking care of him.

Betsy and Tyler leave the school as Jim radios Betsy.
EXT. JOB SITE--CONTINUOUS

JIM
(Into phone)
You there Betsy?

EXT. TYLER’S SCHOOL--CONTINUOUS

BETSY
(Into phone)
Just leaving Tyler’s school now. He has over a 100 fever and keeps throwing up. Heading back to the office now. Irwin should be there.

INTERCUT:

JIM
(Into phone)
Alone?

A beat.

JIM
(Into phone)
I just don’t want anyone to call up with questions and have him be there to answer.

BETSY
Sorry Jim.

JIM
No big deal. Hurry up and get back.

EXT. JIM’S CAR--DAY

Manny approaches Jim.

MANNY
Why don’t you want the old man knowing about the break?

JIM
Between the heart attacks, high cholesterol, and family history, would you want him finding out?

(CONTINUED)
MANNY
Yeah good point, he doesn’t look too good anymore.

JIM
Anymore? Where have you been? He’s always looked like hell. In terms of the company, he’s just like the Queen of England. I make the laws, he wears the crown.

MANNY
Yeah Irwin the queen. That’s a nice image.

EXT. JOB SITE--DAY

Marco is in the trench with Ron and his men, furiously pumping out the water and shoveling mud around.

RON
Once we get it down to three feet, it should be safe to fish around and find the valve.

MARCO
Well get ready because if I remember where the valve is for the split second I saw it, we’re not far off. Get the tools ready.

Marco keeps pumping as Manny and Jim come over and lend a hand with shovels, trying to clear the mess. Ron comes over in a waterproof suit and a large, specialized wrench used for valves. He descends into the trench, next to Marco.

RON
(To his men)
Hold the plans up so I have a better chance at this thing.

One of his men holds the incorrect set up.

MARCO
Wrong ones!

JIM
Unbelievable.

Another of the men grabs the correct ones and holds them up.

(CONTINUED)
MARCO
Okay Ronny, a couple more seconds
and you’re reaching in!

Marco signals to Ron a moment later to go in. Ron puts his
head just above the water level and submerges the rest of
his body, holding the wrench. He wears a grimace on his face
as we hear clanking under the water.

MANNY
Let’s go Ronny! It’s all you baby!

Ron looks up at the plans, repositions himself, and turns
the valve off. His body propels itself from the water and he
throws the wrench up to his men.

RON
Yaaaaa! Finally.

JIM
Thanks a lot Ron.

MANNY
Yeah, we better start tipping you.

JIM
Don’t give him any ideas.

Ron climbs out of the trench, Marco continues to pump.

RON
(Laughing)
Don’t worry boys. Your taxes are
high enough that I do alright.

A beat.

RON
And on that note, I’ll go dry off
and leave you to clean this mess
up.

JIM
Thanks again Ron.

Ron nods and walks away with his men.
EXT. IRWIN’S CAR--DAY

We see a "Red Rock Construction" truck speeding down the highway.

INT. IRWIN’S CAR--DAY

Irwin is looking ahead, and spots the "Channel 7 News" van.

EXT. IRWIN’S CAR--DAY

We see Irwin’s truck accelerate and fly past the news van.

INT. NEWS VAN--DAY

Tom looks out the window to see Irwin in his truck, going over 100 miles per hour.

   TOM
   What the hell?

INT. SAMPSON’S HARDWARE STORE--DAY

Rip approaches the counter where a salesman, TIMMY, 28, who has black, slicked back hair and takes his job too seriously, is working.

   RIP
   Hi I’m with Red Rock Construction and I’m looking for a specific part. Can you help me with that?

   TIMMY
   Sure, what do you need?

   RIP
   I need a 6-inch valve piece to repair a water main with. You have plenty of those, right?

   TIMMY
   Well we do have a case of them, but they’re all taken.

Rip looks behind the counter and sees several of the valves that he needs.

(CONTINUED)
RIP
(Pointing)
That them right there?

TIMMY
Yeah those are them. On reserve though. Got a customer coming in later this week to pick them up.

RIP
Well if it isn’t until later this week could I have one? I only need one.

TIMMY
(With no sympathy)
Sorry pal. Can’t do it.

RIP
Pal? I’m your pal?

TIMMY
It’s an expression.

RIP
Listen, Timmy. I hit a water main today that caused a huge mess in Boston and I got a lot of water spouting from the ground. I need one of those valves, and I need it within the next three seconds.

TIMMY
I don’t care.

Rage comes over Rip’s face.

RIP
That’s it.

Rip winds up and punches Timmy in the face. Rip then dives over the counter and wrestles Timmy to the ground. He punches him a couple more times, gets up, grabs a valve, and runs out the door.

EXT. JOB SITE--DAY

Irwin arrives at the job as Jim, Manny, and Marco pump the trench. Jim runs over to Irwin.
JIM
What are you doing here!?

IRWIN
Some news guys are coming. They’re looking for statements.

JIM
What!?

IRWIN
Don’t worry though, Jim, it’ll be five minutes before they get here.

JIM
Wonderful.

IRWIN
Let’s see this break.

Irwin starts walking towards the trench, as Jim tries to stop him.

JIM
No big deal. We’ll have it fixed in a minute.

Irwin sees puddles everywhere, water still in the trench, and water all in the road.

IRWIN
Oh my god.

JIM
It’s fine Irwin. It’s taken care of.

Irwin gets his medicine out of his pocket and takes two pills, then a deep breath.

JIM
Just relax, take another breath, head towards your car, and just go home. I appreciate you coming to check it out, but I got it from here.

IRWIN
Okay Jim. Let me know how it turns out.

Irwin walks to his car. At that moment, a Massachusetts Highway Department official, RYAN BURKE, 53 and thin as a rail with glasses, shows up.
JIM
I know, I know, we’re going as fast as we can.

RYAN
Go faster Jim. We’re gonna have to fine you for any damage to the road and withhold the money from the job until the road is repaired. You guys must have spent so much time and energy on the trench you didn’t realize the road is ruined.

Jim takes a few steps in Ryan’s direction, looks around the corner and sees the road covered in puddles.

JIM
Dammit! Son of a...

A beat, for Jim to think.

JIM
Yeah well we were concerned with the main that I guess we didn’t notice the road. We’ll get it fixed. Just give us a second.

RYAN
Well get on it then. We’re getting calls from local business on the block saying they’re gonna sue if their stores are damaged, and neither of us wants to deal with that.

JIM
No kidding.

RYAN
I got other places to be right now. I just wanted to tell you what the deal is because you usually do a hell of a job.

JIM
This is no exception. You come back tomorrow and tell me it’s not, then we’ll talk.

RYAN
I hope so.
At that moment, as Irwin starts his car and begins to pull away, the road partially collapses, leaving Irwin’s car tilted at a 45 degree angle between the road and the sidewalk.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

EXT. JOB SITE ROAD--AFTERNOON

Jim and Manny run over to Irwin’s car, but stop in their tracks about 20 feet away to give themselves space. Irwin opens his car window.

IRWIN
Get me out of here Jimmy!

JIM
Put the car in park and don’t move!

Jim pulls Manny aside.

JIM
Watch him.

Jim runs over to the excavator and drives it to a large steel plate. He gets out, attaches the plate to the bucket, and gets back in. He drives the excavator over to the road where Irwin is stuck, lowers the plate at the sidewalk, with it reaching over the collapsed half of the road, and signals Manny to detach it, which he does. Jim gets out and starts walking on the steel plate towards Irwin.

JIM
Open your door and get on the steel plate!

Irwin opens his door, puts a foot outside, but sees a space of sunken road between his car and the plate and hesitates. Jim comes and reaches his hand out.

JIM
Just grab my hand and jump for it!
I’ll pull you as much as I can!

Irwin grabs Jim’s hand, and does his best attempt at jumping. Jim yanks him as hard as he can, and Irwin lands barely on the edge of the plate as Manny comes over.
JIM
(To Manny)
We’ll have Rippy use this to wedge
the road up when he gets back and
then smooth it out!

INT. SCOTT'S OFFICE--AFTERNOON

Scott enters his office and looks at the papers on his desk strewn around.

SCOTT
What the hell is this?

He looks at the bid, and we see all sorts of markings on pieces of paper lying around the desk from Irwin looking at it.

SCOTT
This thing is gonna take me all night to fix up.

He sits down, grabs a calculator and starts writing. After a couple beats, he hears someone enter the office. He gets up and walks out to the lobby.

INT. OFFICE--CONTINUOUS

Betsy sits down at her desk as Tyler puts his backpack down.

BETSY
How’d it go in Boston?

SCOTT
The site was soaked and they said it was my fault.

BETSY
Jim must have been upset.

SCOTT
You could say that.

BETSY
And the bid?

SCOTT
Irwin played with the numbers while I was gone, but he misplaced some of my stuff so I have to go through it now and sort it out. Gonna take forever.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

BETSY
Then why are you here talking to me?

SCOTT
Good point.

Scott steps a direction towards his office as Tyler vomits on his shoe, drawing a chuckle from Betsy.

SCOTT
That’s funny to you?

BETSY
On a normal day, no. But today, it’s the main highlight.

EXT. JOB SITE ROAD--AFTERNOON

Jim pulls the steel plate off the road with the excavator as Manny sets up a pump for the water.

EXT. JOB SITE--CONTINUOUS

Rip pulls right up to the trench and gets out of his car with a fresh bruise on his face, holding a new valve. He shows it to Marco, who runs away.

EXT. JOB SITE ROAD--CONTINUOUS

Jim sees that Rip is back.

JIM
(To Manny)
I’ll be right back.

Jim runs over to Rip.

EXT. JOB SITE--CONTINUOUS

JIM
What the hell happened to your face?

RIP
Let’s just say now we don’t have accounts at Ferguson’s or Sampson’s.
JIM
I’ll worry about that later, get this thing fixed.

Marco comes running back with a saw, hops into the trench and starts cutting a space in the pipe for the new valve. Jim runs back over to Manny.

EXT. JOB SITE ROAD--CONTINUOUS

JIM
Let’s hurry up and get this thing smoothed out. No way we’re staying here past dark.

MANNY
I’m with you Boss.

JIM
It can’t wait until tomorrow, and having to rent light towers would kill us.

A beat.

JIM
Actually, get the roller ready right now.

INT. OFFICE--AFTERNOON

Scott, wearing his jacket and carrying his briefcase, enters the main office where Betsy is typing.

SCOTT
There’s no way I can get this thing all done tonight.

BETSY
Well you came in late today so maybe you should stay late and finish it.

SCOTT
Irwin messed around with it and barely got anything done. If they didn’t call me into Boston then maybe I would have gotten it done.
BETSY
What’s the matter with you? This isn’t all about you. Maybe you don’t know that because you’re single and have nobody else, but some of us have families and people depending on us.

SCOTT
(Sarcastically)
That sounds nice and all, but I’m fine the way I am.

BETSY
You know what the worst part is? You know it’s important, but you still don’t care. Yeah, for right now we get paid either way, but in six months, when there’s no work?

SCOTT
We can worry about then when it comes. I need to head out.

BETSY
Fine. I bet Jim will do a better job on it anyways.

Scott walks out the door.

EXT. JOB SITE ROAD--AFTERNOON

Jim is holding the pump as we see the last of the puddles being sucked up. Manny is in the roller smoothing the road out.

JIM
Finish smoothing and then put the pump away!

Jim walks away and over to the trench.

EXT. JOB SITE--CONTINUOUS

Jim sees Rip in the excavator, lowering pipe into Marco, who sets it properly.

JIM
Can you handle it from here? I gotta head back in a few.
MARCO
All set Jim.

At that moment, the Channel 7 News van races over to the site, as Tom hops out. He approaches Jim and Marco.

TOM
Tom Downing, Channel 7 News. Can I get a statement from either of you regarding the water main break?

Jim and Marco look at each other.

JIM
A statement? No. But the owner is over there, riding the roller. You should go talk to him.

Tom runs towards Manny.

TOM
(To his crew)
Over there! Let’s go!

Jim and Marco share a laugh.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

EXT. JOB SITE ROAD—EVENING

Manny is taking questions from Tom.

TOM
How exactly did your firm break the water main?

MANNY
(Sarcastically)
Well first we too some shovels to it. We hacked away at it but it wouldn’t budge. Then we tried sawing it off. Didn’t work. So we just used the big excavator to rip it out.

TOM
What?
MANNY
It’s called an accident.

TOM
I see. So has there been any backlash from it?

MANNY
(Sarcastically)
You know, the usual. Lawsuits, public officials, and my feelings are hurt pretty bad.

TOM
(Confused)
Um, how did you go about repairing the problem?

MANNY
(Sarcastically)
Well my buddy gave me his shoulder to cry on and told me that everything would be alright. Which was nice of him to do.

TOM
(Confused, irritated)
I meant the water main.

MANNY
The way we usually handle it. No more questions. Talk to the water department.

EXT. JOB SITE—EVENING
Rip is filling the trench with dirt as Marco gives him hand signals and Jim picks up trash around the site. A police car pulls up and TWO OFFICERS, both middle aged and overweight, get out.

JIM
Can I help you?

OFFICER #1
Yes we’d like to speak to an older man, in his 60’s. Name’s Rip.

The second officer taps the first and points to the excavator.

(CONTINUED)
OFFICER #1
That guy, in the machine, with the bruise on his face. Call him over here please.

JIM
Marco! Get Rippy over here.

A beat.

JIM
What’s the problem?

Rip walks towards Jim and the cops.

RIP
Yes?

OFFICER #1
You’re under arrest for simple assault. We got a call from an employee at Sampson’s hardware store saying you punched him in the face and proceeded to tackle him to the ground.

Rip looks at Jim, who pulls the officers aside.

JIM
(To officers)
Let me keep him for 5 more minutes? You can stay here and watch over him while he finishes.

OFFICER #2
Why the hell would we do that?

JIM
Because as bad as this looks for me, the city needs it to get done too, and that won’t happen without him. So gimme 5 minutes with him, then you can take him away. Deal?

OFFICER #1
Make it quick.

Jim goes back to Rip.

JIM
I bargained 5 minutes. Finish this thing and call me from jail.
INT. DAGOSTINO CONSTRUCTION--EVENING

Scott is in the office of MARK DAGOSTINO, 45, who looks like he is in the mafia and owns Dagostino Construction.

MARK
A couple more months and then you’ll be good to go?

SCOTT
Yeah just lemme wait until the end of the year.

MARK
What’s the difference? It’s not like you’re still doing anything productive with them.

SCOTT
I’m trying. The distraction and excitement of coming aboard here gets in the way though.

MARK
So how bad are you tanking?

SCOTT
I’m not trying to tank. It’s tough to stay focused when I have other things on my mind.

MARK
I understand. I’ll give you your time to ease your way out. When are you telling Jim?

SCOTT
Haven’t thought much about it. He’s been busting my chops lately about bids and staying busy, and I just keep brushing him off and ignoring him.

MARK
Well it’s not my problem.

SCOTT
I know. I’ll deal with him soon enough. Let him know. So I can finally be done answering to him.

(Continued)
MARK
It’ll be free reign with finding and bidding the work here. No questions asked.

SCOTT
That’s what I like to hear.

EXT. OFFICE--EVENING

Jim arrives at the office, noticing only one car, Betsy’s, in the parking lot.

INT. OFFICE--EVENING

Jim sees Betsy packing up her things and Tyler sitting patiently.

JIM
How you feeling pal?

TYLER
Okay.

BETSY
He’ll be fine by tomorrow. 24 hour bug hopefully.

A beat.

JIM
There’s only one other car out there besides me, and that’s you.

BETSY
He left about an hour ago.

JIM
(Knowing the answer)
He didn’t finish, did he?

BETSY
What do you think?

JIM
That little brat. I just don’t get it. You have a job, you want to keep your job, why don’t you do your job?

(CONTINUED)
BETSY
I don’t understand either.

JIM
Well you’ve had a long enough day.
Take off and get some rest.

BETSY
Until tomorrow.

Betsy and Tyler walk out of the office, as Jim walks towards Scott’s office.

INT. SCOTT’S OFFICE--CONTINUOUS

Jim looks at the papers on Scott’s desk, reads them over for a second, and shakes his head. He gathers everything from the desk and carries it with him up stairs.

INT. JIM’S OFFICE--CONTINUOUS

Jim places the materials from Scott’s office on his coffee table and sorts things out, and puts a large set of drawings on his desk. He goes to his coffee maker and starts making a pot, as his wife, LISA, 37, attractive, supportive, but also strong, calls him.

JIM
(Into phone)
Anyway we can delay skirt steak night?

INT. JIM’S HOME--CONTINUOUS

LISA
(Into phone)
Turn on the TV. Go to the news.

INTERCUT:

Jim turns on the TV and flips to Channel 7, where he sees Manny’s interview and laughs momentarily.

JIM
(Into phone)
He’s not as dumb as he looks. Or acts.

(CONTINUED)
LISA  
(Into phone)  
What’d you say about dinner?

JIM  
(Into phone)  
I’m not gonna make it. Scott screwed up this bid tomorrow and didn’t know how to fix it.

LISA  
(Into phone)  
Why do you still pay that guy if you do his job?

JIM  
(Into phone)  
I have no idea. Maybe he’ll turn it around.

LISA  
(Into phone)  
Well I wouldn’t put up with it if I were you. Tell him to shape up or get out.

JIM  
(Into phone)  
I’m trying everything. We’ll see what happens.

A beat.

JIM  
(Into phone)  
I’ll just have to grab a bowl of cereal when I get home.

LISA  
(Into phone)  
I guess I’ll just refrigerate the skirt steak, save it for tomorrow.

JIM  
(Into phone)  
That’s fine. I’ve waited three years, what’s another day?

LISA  
(Into phone)  
When will you be home?

(CONTINUED)
JIM
(Into phone)
Couple hours I hope.

LISA
(Into phone)
I’ll let you get to work then. See you when you get home.

Lisa hangs up, and Jim starts crunching numbers and making marks on the plans. After a beat, he hears something outside, so he looks out the window.

EXT. OFFICE--CONTINUOUS

Manny is unloading equipment from his truck into the shed behind the office. Jim calls to him out the window.

INT. JIM’S HOME--CONTINUOUS

JIM
Why didn’t you go home?

INTERCUT:

MANNY
Dropping off the equipment we don’t need for tomorrow. You need any help?

JIM
You don’t know how to do a bid.

MANNY
I could look over some of the revisions. Maybe make some calls.

JIM
Nah I got it. I know most of the supplier’s pricing by memory for most of this stuff anyways. Thanks though.

MANNY
Anytime Boss. You see me on TV?

JIM
Yeah. If only the politicians handled reporters the way you do.

(CONTINUED)
MANNY
No way I was taking crap from that hack.

JIM
Never.

MANNY
So what are the chances we hit the bid tomorrow?

JIM
Won’t know for a couple hours.

MANNY
It’s near what we’re working on right now, isn’t it?

JIM
Yeah a couple miles away. Even if we lose tomorrow, I’m sure we’ll be back there at some point.

MANNY
I know we will.

A beat.

MANNY
I’m heading home now Boss. I’ll see ya tomorrow.

JIM
As always.

Jim closes the window, sits down at his desk, and continues making marks on the bid as he hears Manny’s truck drive off.

END OF ACT FIVE

FADE OUT: