

**CRASH**

**Johnson** Mr. Ryan

**Ryan** Yeah

**Johnson** My name is Shaniqua Johnson. I believe we spoke last night.

**Ryan** Oh, yeah. I wanted to apologize about that. I haven't been getting too much sleep. My father's in a lot of pain.

**Johnson** Oh! I'm sorry to hear that.

**Ryan** This doctor he's been seein' says he's got a urinary tract infection. But he's been takin' this medicine for a month and he keeps gettin' worse.

**Johnson** And he's been back to see Dr. Robertson?

**Ryan** Yeah. Between you and me, the man's an idiot.

**Johnson** Really?

**Ryan** No offense. But the guy sees 100 patients an hour. I think his nurses are most of the work.

**Johnson** Mmm. If you're unhappy, your father's welcome to see a doctor outside the network.

**Ryan** And if this new doctor says it's not an infection, says it's his prostate and it needs to be operated on, is that gonna be covered?

**Johnson** Not unless Dr. Robertson authorizes---

**Ryan** ---What good is that gonna do?

**Johnson** I'm sorry. There's nothing else I can do.

**Ryan** All right. You know what I can't do? I can't look at you without thinking about the five or six more qualified white men who didn't get your job.

**Johnson** It's time for you to go.

**Ryan** I'm saying this 'cause I'm hoping that I'm wrong about you. I'm hoping that someone like yourself, someone who may have been given a helping hand, might have a little compassion for someone in a similar situation.

**Johnson** Carol, I need security in my office!

**Ryan** You don't like me, that's fine. I'm a prick. My father doesn't deserve to suffer like this. He was a janitor. He struggled his whole life. Saved enough to start his own company. Twenty-three employees, all of them black. Paid 'em equal wages when no one else was doing that. For 30 years he worked side by side with those men, sweeping and carrying garbage. Then the city council decides to give minority-owned companies preference in city contracts. And overnight, my father loses everything. His business, his home, his wife. Everything! Not once does he blame your people. I'm not asking you to help me. I'm asking that you do this small thing for a man who lost everything, so people like yourself could reap the benefits. And do you know what it's gonna cost you? Nothing. Just a flick of your pen.

**Johnson** Your father sounds like a good man. And if he'd come in here today, I probably would've approved this request. But he didn't come in. You did. And for his sake, it's a real shame. Get him the hell outta my office.