

SIDES: GINGHAM ---- START HERE

Vernon sits down in front of Gingham's desk. On her desk sits a few stacks of paper, a pen, and a nameplate inscribed with CLAIRE M GINGHAM. There also sits plastic cutlery and unopened cartons of Chinese food. On the far corner of the desk sits a framed photograph of a small Asian child.

There are two small tables behind Gingham. Sitting at each table is an elderly resident, doing some sort of menial office job (stuffing and licking envelopes, copying documents by hand, etc.)

Gingham speaks in a rapid-fire manner, talking continuously in a way that gives the listener the impression of non-sequiturs.

Gingham begins opening the packages of Chinese food, talking all the while.

GINGHAM (CONT'D)

Do you mind? I got all this chink food and I gotta eat it while it's hot. I love this stuff, but two hours later...

(makes a face)

Y'know? I got the wooden sticks, but I'll be goddamed if I'm not gonna use a fork.

Gingham points to an antique firearm hanging up on the wall opposite to her.

GINGHAM (CONT'D)

Hey, speaking of coolies, check that out. Killed twelve limeys in the Opium Wars. I'd let you touch it and all, but you'd have to burn some incense first. Pretty crazy, huh? Haven't had the chance to use it... Yet.

Vernon is a little overwhelmed by Gingham.

GINGHAM (CONT'D)

Look, Wells, I'm gonna cut to the chase. Me? I'm the boss. Numero uno. El Presidente. I'll handle the weaponry. You? You're here to push the mop.

Gingham is still going.

GINGHAM (CONT'D)

But that doesn't mean you're not gonna have to...*extend* yourself a little bit around here. Do you comprende? There's a saying around here: No senior left behind.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY

Gingham is leading Vernon through a hallway of doors. Vernon pushes his mop as they walk, Gingham munches on her food. Gingham talks all the while.

GINGHAM

One resident in each room. Before I got here, they used to double up old couples, but I put a stop to that.

(shudder)

As if the thought of elderly coitus doesn't ruin it for the rest of us...

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