

JOKE

At last, they reach the bottom. The Basement office is almost a storage space with shelves and boxes all over the place. There's no natural daylight, and lighting is yellowish and slightly dim.

JOKE

Welcome to the basement.

DERE

More like, welcome to hell.

JOKE

You're the boss' daughter, right?

DERE

Yes.

JOKE

I mean, the one who was in the UK?

DERE

Yes.

JOKE

I don't get it.

DERE

Nothing to get. I need to understand how everything works. From the bottom up.

JOKE

Wow. And the two that just joined management?

DERE

What two?

JOKE

Indira and Kadija Adami...

DERE

They're my step-sisters.

JOKE

Why are they not down here with you, learning how everything works? From the bottom up?

DERE

(stumped)

I don't know.

JOKE

Sounds like you got yourself a
dirty deal, sister.

DERE's face falls. She looks unhappy.

JOKE (CONT'D)

(noticing)

Don't worry. I won't leave you here
on your own. And maybe we can make
a few changes, make the place a
little nicer...

DERE smiles through her upset, grateful to have a friend in
middle of this miserable situation.

JOKE (CONT'D)

The coffee room's on the ground
floor, but you can bring a kettle
and make your own down here. Save
you a lot of walking up and down.

DERE

I could do with the exercise. And
I'll definitely want some sun.

JOKE

Okay. Through there are the toilets
(pause)
...mind the glue traps -

DERE

(fearful)

You have mice?

JOKE

Mice? No -

She walks as she talks, leading an apprehensive DERE round
the corner and out of sight.

DERE (O.S.)

Oh, thank God!

JOKE (O.S.)

We have rats. God, they're huge.

DERE yelps, JOKE laughing.

JOKE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

I'm joking. They're average size.
For this area...

CUT TO: