

The Chain Reaction

... Reaction...

It was the usual slightly organized chaos at the video shoot, people putting the set together, people running around like chickens with their heads cut off, others looking like they were doing something when in fact they were doing nothing and Steve shows up right in the middle of it.

Steve walks in with rolled up paper stuffed into his back pocket and he is looking for the director because where else would he be but here. They had looked at the storyboard of this video, came to a decision on the clothing, the tuxes, the black and white checkerboard stage and the black and red checkerboard bar but you couldn't tell much from pictures, at least, he couldn't. So the day before they all showed up in mass and they were given a quick run-down and that was when they saw things in the glaring light of day and after much note taking and much discussion they decided to make a few minute, slight, little, changes. Okay so the changes encompassed three full pages but hey that was neither here nor there and since he was the lead singer, he was the chosen one to tell the director, he liked to think it was because of his leadership quality or the way that he could baffle them with bullshit or even because of his stick- to-it-ness but no it was mainly because he had lost three out four Rock-Paper-Scissors games.

"Steve." The director says as he spots him from the height of the camera crane. "You're early. We aren't ready yet, we were just checking out some camera angles, say, do you want to....? The director points to the camera.

"Oh no...I have this thing about heights but I did want to..."

The camera operator lowers the crane and the director gets off and he immediately grabs Steve by his arm and he points him in the direction of the stage.

"Okay, first of all we moved the stage over just a smidge..." The director says but Steve is distracted by one of the props.

Steve points over his shoulder. "What is that?" Steve asks.

"That is Neal's strange attraction. We call her Sadie the Mannequin; you sing to her." The director says.

Steve laughs hysterically. "What?"

"Oh yeah Steve, just picture it, it will be wonderful." The director gestures with his hands. "What do you think?"

"Well, to be honest, Sadie is a little cheesy and not exactly what we were going for but the guys and I have some....."

The director puts his arm around Steve and he leads him over to look at something else and he totally walks over Steve verbally.

"Now right here is where it happens." The director says.

Steve looks at the place where the director is pointing. "Where what happens?"

"Where you push Neal." The director says.

"Where I....push Neal?" Steve repeats.

"Oh yeah! Very powerful....now see this with me Steve."

The director explains to Steve where in the song he will do this and the director even acts out his vision for him and when it was all said and done he looks at Steve and he asks. "Do you have any questions?"

Steve smiles an evil smile. "How hard do I push him?"

The director then holds up one finger. "Watch and I shall demonstrate." The director gets in the same position that Neal will be in then he says to Steve, "Push me."

"What?" Steve says.

"Push me." The director says again. "Come on." The director gestures for him to come closer. Steve pushes him and the director takes a step back.

"Again." The director says.

Steve takes a step towards the director and he pushes him and again the director takes another step back and they do this until Steve has pushed the director to the stage and with the last push the director trips on the stage and he falls backwards and he lands on his ass and his legs come up over his head. He starts to laugh.

"Does that answer your question?"

The director asks as Steve laughs and he gives him a hand up then the director puts his arm around Steve's shoulder.

"I'm sorry did you want to talk to me about something?"

The director asks as Steve snakes his hand around behind him and he pulls the papers out of his back pocket and he wads them up then he lets it drop out of his hand behind him and

when it hits the floor he kicks it and it rolls underneath the stage and the director never saw a thing.

“Actually, you know, I like your ideas, especially the one about Neal. Could you explain that one to me again?” Steve asks as he smiles that evil smile.

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