

Fantastic

1. INTERIOR, MORNING, NCR ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, NEVADA

FANTASTIC is sitting in a large drab waiting room, paint is peeling off the walls and the bulb above him flickers intermittently. A framed portrait of President Kimball hangs on the far side of the room. FANTASTIC is nervous and twitchy, unable to sit still in his seat.

FANTASTIC

C'mon man, how long's this gonna take.

He stands and begins to pace, continually staring at the framed portrait.

NCR RECEPTIONIST

Come through, they're ready for you.
Dr?

(Beat)

I'm sorry I don't seem to have your
name doctor.

FANTASTIC

It's Fantastic Baby

NCR RECEPTIONIST

DR Fantastic? Follow me

FANTASTIC follows her through a door and down a series of corridors.

FANTASTIC

Nah nah, just Fantastic.

NCR RECEPTIONIST

I'm sorry?

FANTASTIC

Fantastic baby, nothing more, nothing
less.

They arrive at a set of large double doors, the receptionist turns to leave.

NCR RECEPTIONIST

Through here Mr Fantastic

FANTASTIC

God Damn, it's Fantastic.

FANTASTIC opens the door to reveal a cramped board room, a rectangular desk sits in the middle of the room with two

figures sitting behind it. One is female and is in combat fatigues, the other a male in a dirty dark suit. The male stretches out a hand in offer. FANTASTIC ignores it and takes the seat opposite them.

FANTASTIC

Lets get this show on the road then,
been in that damn waitin' room hours.
Didn't see another soul waiting.
Guessing old Fantastic has a damn good
shot at this gig.

LT HAGGERTY

Sorry about the wait Doctor, the push
east has us thin.

CROCKER

I'm Ambassador Dennis Crocker, and
this is Lieutenant April Haggerty.

FANTASTIC puts his feet up on the desk

FANTASTIC

Hey man, good to meet ya.

CROCKER

Okay, I'm glad you seem comfortable,
we like to keep these interviews nice
and informal.

FANTASTIC

I'm chill daddio, don't you worry
about that.

LT HAGGERTY

So Doctor, you've been briefed on the
position? As well as Helios One?

FANTASTIC

Yeah, yeah baby don't you worry about
no Helios, Fantastic knows all about
them power plants. Get that juice from
the sun like magic.

LT HAGGERTY

Yes, well Helios Once is a solar plant
as you're aware. You mentioned to our
agents when they were on a recruitment
drive you were well versed in the
running and maintaining of power
plants.

FANTASTIC

As much as anyone else baby, lets talk caps. Fantastic needs to be paid in order to keep the lights on.

LT HAGGERTY shifts in her seat and looks visibly uncomfortable. FANTASTIC fishes in his lab coat for a cigarette, places it in his mouth and lights it.

CROCKER

We'll discuss payment at a later date, now the position obviously would require you to move to the Mojave? Is that an issue? No commitments keeping you here?

FANTASTIC

No sir, Fantastic is a free man. Couple folks may come around asking for Fantastic, but they're fools only wanting what Fantastic got.

CROCKER

Ummm excellent
(Beat)
Excellent.

There is an awkward pause.

LT HAGGERTY

So, I'm quite surprised you know so much about theoretical physics doctor. Seeing how most of your neighbours in Aroyo can't read.

FANTASTIC

I've got a theoretical degree in physics baby. Don't you pile Fantastic in with those suckers.

CROCKER

That's very impressive!

LT HAGGERTY turns to CROCKER and attempts to interject.

LT HAGGERTY

Sir he means...

CROCKER

Most impressive doctor, my word you're quite the find.

LT HAGGERTY
If I may sir.

CROCKER turns sharply to LT HAGGERTY

CROCKER
You may not Lieutenant.

He turns back to FANTASTIC and grins. FANTASTIC matches his grin and continues to smoke, LT HAGGERTY looks visibly annoyed. She frowns in FANTASTIC's direction.

CROCKER
It's a very rare treat to meet a fellow educated man this day and ages. A very rare treat indeed.

FANTASTIC
Well you one lucky SOB Baby, Fantastic is one smart cookie.

FANTASTIC moves his feet from the desk and onto the floor, he stubs his cigarette out on the desk and grins widely at LT HAGGERTY. LT HAGGERTY looks at the cigarette and FANTASTIC with disgust. FANTASTIC adjusts his sunglasses.

FANTASTIC
Can FANTASTIC talk caps with you cats now?

CROCKER
Soon doctor soon, there's a few other things we must discuss first.

LT HAGGERTY moves in closer to CROCKER and whispers in his ear.

LT HAGGERTY
(Whispered)
Sir, please listen this man is a fraud. The man is an idiot for Christ's sake.

FANTASTIC
Didn't anyone tell you it's rude to whisper about people baby? Fantastic can handle it.

CROCKER scowls at LT HAGGERTY as she backs away from him.

CROCKER
My apologies doctor, please excuse the
Lieutenant.

FANTASTIC
It's all good baby, FANTASTIC is used
to having haters.

FANTASTIC shoots a smirk and adjusts his sunglasses in LT
HAGGERTY's direction.

LT HAGGERTY
What's with the sunglasses doctor?

FANTASTIC sits up abruptly and turns his face away from LT
HAGGERTY, CROCKER turns to LT HAGGERTY with a murderous look.

CROCKER
Lieutenant!

FANTASTIC looks uncomfortable and shifts in his seat. LT
HAGGERTY ignores CROCKER and leans forward towards FANTASTIC.

FANTASTIC
It's bright in here, FANTASTIC got an
eye condition you dig?

LT HAGGERTY
Sure it's not to hide your bloodshot
eyes?

CROCKER shoots to a standing position.

CROCKER
Lieutenant control yourself!

LT HAGGERTY
Jet? Psycho? What's your poison doc?
That's what the glasses are for aren't
they?

CROCKER moves over to LT HAGGERTY, he grips her by the arm.
She ignores him.

LT HAGGERTY
Bet you've got pupils like pissholes
in the snow behind those shades don't
you?

CROCKER
Lieutenant, please leave! Get out!

Now!

CROCKER shoots out a straight arm pointing towards the door. LT HAGGERTY starts to rise, she places one hand on the table and points the other at FANTASTIC.

LT HAGGERTY
This man is a fucking junkie! And
you're about to put him in charge of
Helios!

FANTASTIC is visibly uncomfortable and fidgeting. CROCKER is red with anger, LT HAGGERTY stands and begins making her way to the door, she is still looking at FANTASTIC.

CROCKER
Get out of here immediately
Lieutenant! We will discuss this in my
office later.

LT HAGGERTY reaches the door, opens the door then turns to look at CROCKER.

LT HAGGERTY
With all due respect
(Beat)
Sir, if you give this Jet-head the job
you're as fucking stupid as he is.

CROCKER
Out!

LT HAGGERTY leaves and slams the door behind her. CROCKER tries to compose himself. FANTASTIC looks relieved. CROCKER sits down, smiles and clears his throat.

CROCKER
My deepest apologies doctor, I hope
this doesn't taint your opinion of the
Republic.

FANTASTIC
Nah nah it's cool. Fantastic knows the
Republic are cool cats, cool cats with
deep pockets if you dig?

CROCKER
Yes doctor, I think I 'dig'. Back to
business.

FANTASTIC
Cool daddio.

CROCKER
Well doctor, it's five hundred caps
per month with a bonus on output per
kilowatt. Accommodation and meals are
provided, and you'll be near the Strip
should you wish for some R&R.

FANTASTIC
Stellar baby.

CROCKER
Well I must say doctor, I'm very
impressed. You're qualified, you're
experienced and if you're happy with
the offer?

FANTASTIC
FANTASTIC is happy, best believe it
baby.

CROCKER stands and offers his hand to FANTASTIC.

CROCKER
Welcome aboard Doctor Fantastic.

FANTASTIC stands and accepts CROCKERS hand

FANTASTIC
It's Fantastic baby.

CROCKER
It certainly is Doctor Fantastic

END

