

Bourne
toWrite...
creative writing
workshops

Union

by Nancy Bertenshaw

Sunday 26: New job tomorrow. Sort of excited, but shit scared really. Wish I was still at college, life easy last week. Mam says it's a brilliant opportunity. What does she know? Don't even like the poxy product. Better set alarm 6.0

Sun.26 New recruits arrive tomorrow. Ruth coming for day to see training in Campus, represents producer in Rwanda. Wear plaid shirt; beige sweater, with suede insets and elbow pads; beige cords; new, brown Loafers. Maybe a tie? Choose tomorrow. Set alarm 6.30 a.m.

Mon 27: Soporific, leaden, teeeedious! He droned on and on about the company, the process: stages 1, 2 and 3; the poor people...well, I accept that and want to help them. But, Hades, Inferno, there must be more to life out there. Good day, though. Saw this sublime girl. Think she fancied me too. Big, soulful eyes, (deep and sorrowful) and engaging smile. Was she staff or a new recruit? Beige man leered at me constantly. What a nerd! ('socially inept, boringly studious'...all that) Avoid him tomorrow, like Spike's 'Dreaded Lurgi'. Set alarm 6.30. Early enough.

Mon.27 Chose blue striped tie. I think I was noticed. Ruth arrived at 9 and interesting, new people. One, 'especially', totally engaged, listening, intelligent, attractive! Miles talked brilliantly about company, resources and clients. Aim to be more like Miles, assertive, knowledgeable, resolute; smart clothing. Set alarm 6.30 a.m.

Tue 28: A bothersome, boring day. Leader (called Miles, apt) chuntered on again about understanding transformations, physical and chemical; business plan; training... I've remembered a lot! Miles vented about all the different types there are and how each is processed by 'special people', who've done it for years (and years and years.....this could be me...and I don't even like the stuff!) I'm not staying. Glory-girl not there today. Perhaps she's ill. Irsome bloke, Al, wouldn't leave my side again. Tried to transfix, mesmerize me into conversation; luckily, no time. Who is Golden-girl, what is she? (Will Sh.) Alarm 6.55. Catch 7.10, if I'm very quick .

Tue .28 Managed to engage 'special new person' in deep, meaningful conversation, but curtailed. Miles started part ll a bit earlier. Today, he elucidated the need for training the workforce, to achieve the business plan. He talked with clarity about the chemistry of the transformation; evident, physical changes; most astute. I'm to update website! I was asked and said, 'Yes!' I understand computers better than most. Just had ingenious idea! I'll order on line and send anonymous Union gift, to 'special person' and watch the reaction. Set alarm 6.30 a.m.

Fri 31: In morning post, received parcel from Union, place I'm working! Very odd, no message. No one else got one. I asked. Al, super attentive all day...aargh! Wish he'd desist. Parcel was of chocs, which are ok; nice actually; finished actually (pig!) and there was stuff I don't like, which Mam can have. Not going back Monday. Booked a ticket to Delhi, early Wednesday. I like tea, not coffee! Unionroasted...I'm posted...to a tea plantation!