

FADE IN:

EXT. MSDC OFFICE COMPLEX -- DAY

TILT DOWN from blue sky to reveal office complex. KIRKMAN logo is on front of the building in 3D letters.

BRIAN BALDWIN (38), comb over, short sleeve dress shirt, tie, briefcase, races towards the front door.

Two WORKERS exit, SLAMMING the door into Brian's face & knocking him down. Briefcase spills as they ignore him.

BRIAN
Uh...don't mind me...

He gathers everything and staggers through the entrance.

INT. OFFICE RECEPTION -- DAY

Brian pauses at the door. Office workers enter and exit.

A RECEPTIONIST is at the front desk. Brian huffs over, wheezing.

BRIAN
Hi! I'm...Brian Baldwin...from
Temporarily Yours?

She stares at him blankly.

Behind them, KATE RAND, attractive executive with an English accent confers with another worker holding a tablet. Kate notices Brian as she signs the screen and the employee leaves.

Kate makes sure no one else can hear, and taps her ear.

KATE
(under her breath)
Target acquired.

She saunters up to Brian, who notices her.

KATE (CONT'D)
I'm Dr. Kate Rand, chief neurologist.
You're late. Come with me.

Brian straightens his hair and follows.

INT. OFFICE HALLWAY -- DAY

Kate strides and Brian huffs down the hall with defense project posters adorning the walls.

KATE
What's your story?

BRIAN
Oh-uh...I've done a lot of admin
work, but I'm hoping to get back
into game design.

KATE
You'll be meeting our program manager
Mr. Cloogey. He's the author of the
software you're testing.

Brian sees a "Cyber Fighter" poster with a soldier posing.

BRIAN
Is that the game? That's my thing.

KATE
I wouldn't call it a game, per se.

BRIAN
Is this a temp to permanent job?

KATE
I have no idea about that. Your
agency sent over your CV and the
results of your neuro screening.

BRIAN
Oh yeah, that neuro test was kind of
odd. (beat)
You know, I'm great with third person
shooters like "Zombie Apocalypse".
"I love the smell of necrotic flesh
in the morning!" Ha Ha Ha! Get it?
Cause Robert Duvall's line in
Apocalypse--

Kate pulls a pen from her pocket and tosses it at Brian, who
reflexively catches it. They're both a bit surprised.

KATE
Impressive reflexes.

BRIAN
Yeah, I guess when I'm not thinking...

KATE
Well done.

She leads him further. Brian's briefcase pops open, spilling
again. He falls out of frame. Kate turns.

KATE (CONT'D)
Are you okay?

BRIAN
Yeah...

He struggles to his feet, comb-over flopping to the side.

KATE
Your...hair.

Embarrassed, Brian quickly flips it back.

KATE (CONT'D)
Right... Almost there. This way.

They turn and Kate leads him down a hallway.

INT. DOOR TO THE FARM -- DAY

They stop at metal doors. Kate puts her palm against a screen on the wall. The doors slide open. They enter to reveal--

INT. "THE FARM" LAB -- DAY

A huge, white-lit sci-fi control room--screens and consoles everywhere, lit up and blinking. Brian gawks in amazement.

KATE
Welcome to the Farm.

BRIAN
E-I-E-I-O...M-G...

HUMBERT CLOOGEY (60s), eccentric English Monty Python type leans over a console, wearing a VR visor. He lifts it.

CLOOGEY
Good Morning, Mr. Baldwin! Welcome
to Cyber Fighter.

Brian sees an operating table with a helmet in front of a pair of large screens.

BRIAN
Kinda big for a game system.

CLOOGEY
We actually use 1.1 Petabytes of
data to run this program.

BRIAN
Whoa! Petabytes?!! That's like...a
THOUSAND P.S.-5's!

He leads Brian to a table to a VERY thick document. Flipping the pages, he presents the last page to Brian.

CLOOGEY
Right! We just need you to sign
this non-disclosure agreement.

BRIAN
Non disclosure? Oh...yeah. No
problem. So how fast is the core
clock speed on the GPU?

Brian hastily signs as Cloogeey hides a syringe behind him.

CLOOGEY
We've got multiple processors running
in that server farm behind those
monitors.

As Brian looks, Cloogeey suddenly injects him in the arm.

BRIAN
Ow! What was that for?

CLOOGEY
These nanites will bind to your
cerebral cortex for data delivery of
the skills you'll be programmed with.

BRIAN
Nanites?

CLOOGEY
Microscopic machines that travel
through the bloodstream into your
brain. Gives new meaning to
Artificial Intelligence, eh?

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Cloogeey beams an enthusiastic smile.

CLOOGEY (CONT'D)
But first, we must make you
presentable. Dr. Rand?

Kate steps forward with electric hair clippers.

BRIAN
Wait! What kind of beta test is this?

CLOOGEY
We need a solid connection between
the cathodes and your cranium.

KATE
Don't worry, you'll thank me later.

She turns them on, bringing the buzzer to Brian's scalp.

INT. KIRKMAN GYM -- LATER

CAMERA CRANES DOWN to reveal Brian (with shaved head), Kate
& Cloogeey entering an abandoned gym with the Kirkman logo
and motto printed on banners. They make their way to a large
mat with the MSDC logo on it.

CLOOGEY
We briefly flirted with a corporate
fitness program here back in the
"aughts". However, this location
will suffice for the first phase of
our beta test.

BRIAN
"Greatness is an attitude"?...Yeah,
that sounds corporate.

KATE
By the way Brian, this is a much
better look for you.

BRIAN
Uhhh...thanks.

KATE
Told you.

CLOOGEY
Right! Now with every make-over, we
need to get a "before" picture.

Cloogeey holds up his phone in "selfie" mode and records
himself as he talks to it.

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CLOOGEY (CONT'D)
Presenting Beta Test Subject, Brian
Baldwin, pre-experiment control demo
number one.

He turns the phone at Brian. Kate is puzzled.

BRIAN
Wait...are you live streaming this?

CLOOGEY
Not quite.
(shouting)
We're ready!

A buff Hapa guy with long hair enters from a side door...KIMO
WILSON. He speaks with a Hawaii accent.

KATE
What are you doing, Mr. Cloogeey?

CLOOGEY
This is Kimo Wilson. Navy SEAL.

KIMO
Former Seal Team One, Ford Island
Pearl Harbor back in the day.
(to Cloogeey)
So what Cloogeey, this is the guy?

CLOOGEY
Affirmative.

KIMO
Shoots. We go.

Kimo approaches, hands up in a fighting posture.

BRIAN
Whoa...what's going on?

CLOOGEY
(to Brian)
He's testing your skills.

BRIAN
What skills?

CLOOGEY
Fighting skills, of course.

Brian backs away from the advancing Kimo.

KIMO
Come on, Bruddah, put your hands up.

BRIAN
Fighting skills?!! But I don't know
how to --

Kimo throws a kick to Brian's body that doubles him over.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
--fight...

Kimo opens up with a combo that drops Brian to the mat.

CLOOGEY
Not the head! We need his brain
intact for the download!

KIMO
Roger that.

Kimo gets down and puts Brian in a rear naked choke.

BRIAN
Accccckkkk...

KIMO
Brah, you should tap out.

Brian passes out. Kimo lets him flop to the mat.

KIMO (CONT'D)
Or not.

Cloogeey beams ecstatically. He stops video recording.

CLOOGEY
Brilliant! Now to send this to DARPA.

Kimo gets up and goes over to Cloogeey.

KIMO
How was that?

CLOOGEY
A perfect demo, Lieutenant Commander!

Cloogeey exits with Kimo. Kate sees Brian laid out.

INT. "THE FARM" LAB -- AFTERNOON

TECHNICIANS man computers. Screens load. Brian sits on the table, in shorts, shirtless, electrodes taped to his body.

Behind him are the two large monitors which show a boot-up sequence. The lights in the lab are now all red.

Cloogeey picks up the VR helmet connected to the CPU via a cable and walks over to Brian, placing it on his head. Cloogeey waves a tablet in front of Brian, scanning him as Kate watches.

BRIAN
This is a pretty big VR helmet.
Cloogeey
Not quite. It actually connects via
electrode to your cerebral cortex.

BRIAN
I'm feeling kinda drowsy.

CLOOGEY
Ah, the nanites have taken hold.

Cloogeey types on a laptop. A 3-D hologram screen of Brian's vitals projects in the air.

CLOOGEY (CONT'D)
You'll be sedated for the SAVR
procedure. Subliminal, Augmented,
Virtual Reality! Like a lucid dream!

Kate eases Brian back to recline. His helmet lights and powers up, generating a heads-up display on the face screen.

BRIAN
Will this hurt?

CLOOGEY
Not at all.

He touches a button on his hologram display. Brian convulses violently.

BRIAN
AAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!

CLOOGEY
Sorry! Wrong setting!

He pounds the keyboard to lower the intensity. CPU hums.
Brian's muscles twitch.

KATE
Muscular stimulation activated.

CLOOGEY
Right. We're almost ready to launch.

Brian looks over to see the large monitors active with data.

CLOOGEY (CONT'D)
Sweet dreams, Mr. Baldwin...

He closes his eyes. CloogeY presses a key on the laptop.

EXT. CG FOREST -- DAY

Brian's eyes open--PULL BACK to CG Brian sitting in a deep
horse stance, bowls on his knees and arms.

BRIAN
What the hell is this? I'm CG!
A VOICE from off-screen...

SIFU (O.S.)
Horse stance! You need
to...strengthen your foundation!

Brian is startled by a CG Asian man with long hair, SIFU.

BRIAN
What the--who the hell are you?!!

SIFU
I am SIFU. Simulation Integration
and Fighting Utility. I'll be back
in three days. Don't drop the bowls!

A shocked expression on the animated Brian's face.

BRIAN
Wait! THREE DAYS?!!

SIFU
Virtual days! Compressed time!
You'll see!

SIFU exits. Brian grimaces as day and night time-lapses
three times. SIFU returns, a moon cake pastry in his hand.

SIFU (CONT'D)
What a great harvest moon festival!

He spins & gulps it in one bite. Brian is frozen.

BRIAN
Uh...hello! A little help here? I
can't move!

SIFU
Of course you can. Watch.

SIFU waves his hand. Firecrackers pop around Brian. He jumps, dropping the bowls to the ground.

BRIAN
God-damnit!!! That's not fair!

SIFU
You dropped the bowls.

BRIAN
This is a colossal waste of time!
I'm not learning anything!

A sly look comes over the CG SIFU.

SIFU
So, you want to learn Kung Fu, eh?

EXT. CG CHINESE CASTLE TRAINING MONTAGE -- DAY

SIFU and Brian on a castle bridge at the apex of a mile-high mountain in the middle of a vast ocean.

BRIAN
How the hell did we get here?

SIFU
This will be your training temple
for the next three virtual decades.

BRIAN
Three decades?!!

SIFU
You forget, we live in compressed
time!

Brian kicks a rock and peers over the edge to see it fall to ocean waves crashing hundreds of feet below.

BRIAN
You know, I'm afraid of heights.

SIFU
All the more reason to pay attention.
(MORE)

SIFU (CONT'D)
Lets go. You only have about sixty
hours left in the outside world to
learn all this.

A SERIES OF SHOTS: Brian learns martial arts: Blocks, kicks,
punches, hitting bags, the wooden dummy, and sparring CG
opponents, all while on the bridge.

The sky changes to indicate many years of training. Brian's
sash changes color as his skills increase.

Brown-sashed Brian spars a group he beats easily--the last
guy is kicked off the bridge to plunge to the ocean below.
SIFU gives him a thumbs up and then walks off.

CAMERA pulls back to--

INT. "THE FARM" LAB -- NIGHT

CAMERA DOLLIES OUT to reveal prior scene on a view screen,
revealing unconscious Brian connected to the hardware.

Cloogeey and Kate watch. The main screen shows data, while
holographic vital signs project in the air. Muscles twitch
as Brian has improved muscle tone.

CLOOGEY
DARPA Chief Preston and Colonel
Braxton arrive tomorrow for our final
demo.

KATE
The Pentagon is involved now?

CLOOGEY
You do realize we're not developing
this for the PlayStation 5?

Cloogeey walks towards the door then turns back as they slide
open.

CLOOGEY (CONT'D)
Though, it has a nice ring to it...see
you at tomorrow's pitch!

He exits. Kate taps her earpiece.

KATE
Agent Rand here. DARPA's coming.
It's all bollocks. I need
extraction.

The voice of colleague AGENT HAN crackles in her earpiece.

HAN (V.O.)
Stay there and ghost the hard drive.
I'll get you out tomorrow.

KATE
Affirmative.

She raises her watch to the computer. A scan beam emits and reads the hard drive like an MRI.

EXT. CG FORBIDDEN TEMPLE ON A TROPICAL ISLAND -- MORNING

CG Brian pulls up in a rowboat and walks across temple grounds to stand before SIFU. He wears a black sash.

SIFU
Your training is now complete. Time
to return to the real world.

SIFU raises his hands. Brian levitates in a magic glow.

BRIAN
What the hell? Put me down! I get--
motion sickness very easily!

SIFU is having too much fun though.

SIFU
This will be one small step for a
man...

SIFU throws a chi ball. Brian launches like a rocket,
speeding into space while the earth rushes away.

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BRIAN
AAAAA!!!

Brian spins into trans-lunar injection to the MOON. He passes a spaceship with ARTEMIS astronauts.

EXT. SPACE - THE MOON -- DAY

The Apollo 11 site. Brian hits the surface like a meteor, skipping across the regolith like a stone hitting a pond.

BRIAN
OW! OOH! OH! AH!

He skids to a stop in a cloud of dust. Standing up, he shakes soil off of him and coughs a bunch out of his mouth.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
UGH! Hey...

Brian sees the Apollo 11 landing gear, flag, and plaque.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
Aha! I KNEW it was REAL! Take that,
you tin-foil hat conspiracy nuts!

Brian spots Earth 250,000 miles away in the black sky.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
Wait a minute...
(beat)
If I'm in space, how can I hear myself
talk?
(beat)
Wait--how am I still BREATHING?!!

As soon as he realizes that, he chokes for lack of air.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
I--I--can't--no air--

The vacuum makes him swell like a balloon. He screams!

INT. "THE FARM" LAB -- MORNING

Brian sits up in terror, awakened as Kate holds his helmet.
They are alone in the dimly lit lab, computers now idling.

BRIAN
AAAAA!!!

KATE
Welcome back.

BRIAN
I--couldn't breathe--on the moon--
KATE
The moon? Interesting. Well, you're
all safe and sound now.

BRIAN
(recovering)
Uh...How long was I under?

KATE
Three days. Here. Get dressed and
report to the gym in an hour.

She tosses him clothes. He stands, buff and ripped now.
Kate looks him up and down.

KATE (CONT'D)
Nice...

Brian notices her staring and checks out his new physique.

BRIAN
Whoa! I just got a level up!

INT. KIRKMAN GYM -- DAY

CAMERA PANS from behind a heavy bag to reveal Cloogey with
DARPA CHIEF PRESTON, & COLONEL BRAXTON, standing on the mat.

DARPA CHIEF
Mr. Cloogey, this is Colonel Braxton.

BRAXTON
Retired.

CLOOGEY
I trust you reviewed the white paper?

BRAXTON
This better be good. I have an R.F.P.
at this month's Q.P.R. at J.P.O.

DARPA CHIEF
(to Braxton)
Is that the K.B.S. that the J.A.C.
is presenting on a V.G.A.?

BRAXTON
Affirmative.

CLOOGEY
A-OK, Gentlemen! A-Ha Ha Ha Ha!

DARPA Chief & Braxton stare at Cloogey, not amused.

CLOOGEY (CONT'D)
Right... Well. Bring him in!
INT. KIRKMAN CYN -- CONTINUOUS

Brian enters with Kate.

KATE
Here he is. Vitals check out.

BRAXTON
So this is the...Cyber Fighter?

DARPA CHIEF
Looks like an improvement from that
video you showed us, I'll give you
that.

BRIAN
Hey, I was curious...is one of you
supposed to sign my time card?

CLOOGEY
(chuckling to himself)
Time card...how quaint...
(to Brian)
How are you feeling, Mr. Baldwin?

BRIAN
Like I just woke up...

CLOOGEY
Brilliant. CUE THE TEST!

Kimo enters again and takes a stance.

KIMO
Howzit, Brah? Hana Hou!

BRIAN
Oh...shit. Not again--

INT. KIRKMAN GYM -- CONTINUOUS

FIGHT SCENE

Kimo attacks. Brian sidesteps, surprised at his reflexes.
Kimo throws a furious combo. Brian dodges.

KIMO
Ho! Got some skills now?

Brian fights back quicker, toying with Kimo. Kimo ups the ante, but Brian anticipates and quickly counters.

BRIAN
Wow! This is easy!

Kimo grabs a pole off the floor and attacks.

KIMO
Let's see how you handle this!

Brian dodges Jackie Chan style and poses in a kung fu form.

BRIAN
Too slow, G.I. Joe!

Kimo kicks Brian's head. Brian rolls back to his feet.

KIMO
That fast enough for you Bruddah?

Brian throws rapid punches and kicks. He knocks the pole away. Brian lands several shots, knocking Kimo down.

CLOOGEY
RIGHT! That's enough.

BRIAN
Let's do that again!

Kimo gets up. He turns to Brian smugly.

KIMO
Nice job. Have fun fighting ISIS.

BRIAN
Wait--What?

KIMO
For real, Brah. No joke.

BRAXTON
We'll ship him to Quantico for Basic.

DARPA CHIEF
Have him report to A.A.D. at O.D.A.
ASAP.

KIMO
(to Brian)
Looks like you're S.O.L.

BRIAN
Wait--are you--**DRAFTING** me?!!

KIMO
You catch on quick.

DARPA CHIEF
Nice work, Clookey.

KATE
But he only volunteered to test!

CLOOGEY
Actually, if you read the fine
print...he's signed on for six years
active duty.

BRAXTON
Welcome to Black Ops, son.

KIMO
It ain't the SEALS, but no worries.
At least you won't drown, eh?

Kimo laughs at Brian. Brian sucker punches and kicks Kimo,
knocking him out.

Kate raises her watch, spraying a gas cloud at Braxton, DARPA
Chief and Clookey, quickly knocking them unconscious.

BRIAN
Nice...Watch?

KATE
Come on. I'm getting you out.

They quickly exit, leaving everyone out cold on the mat.

INT. OFFICE HALLWAY -- DAY

Brian and Kate run down the hall.

BRIAN
Why are you helping me?

KATE
My mission's been updated.

BRIAN
Mission?

KATE
You're a very valuable prize.

CLICK! They're halted by no-nonsense AGENT #1, armed with a stun gun. He looks like those guys in "The Matrix".

AGENT #1
You got that right, ma'am.

BRIAN
I must've taken the red pill...

Agent #1 removes his sunglasses.

AGENT #1
That's as far as you go, Mr. Baldwin.
Your brain is Top Secret Department
of Defense Property. Don't make me
use this.

Agent #1 activates the stun gun, causing it to spark loudly.
There's a brief moment of standoff when...

Brian points wildly behind Agent #1.

BRIAN
LOOK!!! IT'S MORPHEUS!!!

Agent #1 turns.

AGENT #1
This area is off limits to
unauthorized personnel--

Kate whip kicks him to the head. He's stunned and staggers.

AGENT #1 (CONT'D)
Ma'am, you are out of line--

She kicks him again. He's wobbly now.

BRIAN
(to Kate)
Why don't you gas him with your watch?

KATE
It needs a refill.

BRIAN
Oh. That makes sense.

Brian kicks him. He falls on his stun gun and is zapped.

AGENT #1
Y-y-y-y-ou...have the r-r-r-right t-
t-to remain silent!!! OHHHHH!!!

BRIAN
(to Kate)
You just need to put more hip into
it.

KATE
Three days, and now you're an expert.
Right. Let's go. My contact is in
the hexagon building waiting for
extraction.

BRIAN
Contact? Extraction?

She runs down the hall. Brian pauses, confused.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
Are you some kind of spy?

She's not there -- he runs after her. Agent #1 twitches on
the ground.

AGENT #1
All...u-u-units! C-c-converge on
the...s-s-sky bridge!

EXT. SKY BRIDGE -- DAY

Kate leads Brian out the front entrance where a pair of
bridges connect the two MSDC buildings.

KATE
We need to rendezvous before they
sound the alarm.

BRIAN
It's a little late for that...

REVEAL: Three suited CIA AGENTS spread out and swarm across
both bridges towards them, cutting off their escape.

KATE
Right, so much for a quick getaway.

BRIAN
These aren't your guys?

KATE
No, I'm Mi-6. They're **your** guys.

The Agents slowly advance--hands up ready to fight. Two
step forward, WILD BILL SULLIVAN and ELDON "DRAGON" CHEN.
The third, a female, SPECIAL AGENT CHARLIE WYNTER holds back.

Brian brandishes his Visitor ID badge.

BRIAN
I got my badge.

WILD BILL
Don't care. You're army property
now.

BRIAN
You know, I've been programmed with
47 different styles of martial arts.

DRAGON
Well, there's three of us.

BRIAN
I fought more...in the simulation.

Brian rushes the group, throwing a flying front kick into
the mass of agents. They counter attack from all sides.

Brian deftly slips and pounds them in retaliation, enjoying
the battle.

Charlie mutters to herself.

CHARLIE
Why do the MEN always get to fight?

Brian is attacked from both sides by Dragon and Wild Bill.
He ducks a head kick from Dragon and the foot crashes into
Wild Bill's face, knocking him into benches.

Brian steps in and traps Dragon's punch, flowing into a
takedown that drops him.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Oh, those boys are gonna need my
help.

Brian gloats.

BRIAN
You guys need practice!

Wild Bill gets up.

WILD BILL
That's just cause he hits harder
than you!

Wild Bill steps in with a kick attack that Brian dodges.
Charlie steps in and knocks Brian a few times, where he drops
back to where Kate catches him.

KATE
You do realize you have to hit back.

BRIAN
Thanks, Captain obvious.

Brian jumps back and launches a chain punch attack that takes the two men out, finishing them with a spinning kick that crashes into both their heads, delivering the K.O.

Brian throws a round kick at Charlie. She blocks and they get into a scuffle. Kate taps her on the shoulder and she turns around.

CHARLIE
Oh, shit...

Kate front kicks Charlie out cold.

Brian's surprised. Kate gloats.

KATE
You just need to put more hip into it.

BRIAN
That was surprisingly satisfying!

KATE
Beating up government agents is not going to fare well for you.

BRIAN
You helped!

KATE
True. Let's go meet my contact before they come to.

A man approaches from across the bridge. As he gets closer, we see it's SIFU from the CG program! But with a shaved head. This is AGENT HAN.

HAN
Well, What did I miss?

KATE
Everything.
(to Brian)
Allow me to introduce Agent Han.

HAN
Ah! We've heard a lot about you, Mr. Baldwin.

BRIAN
Wait...you--you're...SIFU?

HAN
Excuse me?

BRIAN
But you're missing your epic hair...

HAN
Kate's idea.

BRIAN
(to Kate)
You like doing that, don't you?

KATE
I'm always right, except when I'm wrong.

BRIAN
Okay, so why is everyone trying to turn me into a weapon of mass destruction?

KATE
Many entities will want you now. We can protect you if you join us.

BRIAN
Really? Wow...I always wanted to be James Bond!

KATE
It doesn't quite work that way. You'd be a trained...

BRIAN
Ha! This is the coolest temp assignment ever! Sign me up!

KATE
Good, because you still have some cleaning up to do.

BRIAN
What?

Han points behind Brian, towards the main building.

HAN
Him.

REVEAL: AGENT #1 stands angry...holds the stun gun...he TWITCHES & SPASMS intermittent...grunts in agony each time.

AGENT #1
You're all...OOOHHH!...under arrest...AAAHHH!

KATE
(to Han)
How is he still walking?

AGENT #1
(to Kate)
M-m-mind...over...m-matter--UUUGGHH!!!

BRIAN
It won't matter in a moment...

Brian leaps at Agent #1 with a flying kick. FREEZE FRAME.

INT. CUT SCENE

After credits - OVER BLACK - Brian's cell phone VOICE MAIL:

VOICE MAIL (V.O.)
You have one unheard message.

BEEP! Brian's temp agency supervisor, LYNN:

LYNN (V.O.)
Brian, it's Lynn from Temporarily
Yours. Hope your assignment went
well this week. Make sure you turn
in your time card. Thanks!

THE END

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