

Welcome, Aliens  
by  
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INT. SPACE CENTRE - NIGHT

It's a partially darkened room with a dozen or so STAFF of all shapes and sizes, sitting behind computer screens. On the wall in front of the WORKERS is a far bigger screen that is currently black. The BOSS faces everyone with his hands on his hips as he stands on a slightly raised platform, just in front of the massive display.

BOSS

Ok crew, this is an extremely exciting event obviously and I don't want ANYONE here screwing this moment up, do you understand?

Everyone says 'yes' in unison.

BOSS

In our upcoming screen interview with the king of planet Yumyums, we have to be EXTREMELY polite or we will likely alienate - no pun intended - the whole of the alien race, ruining any chances of them sharing their technologies. Do you understand??

Everyone says 'yes' again, but a little more annoyed sounding.

BOSS

Good. Now screen, show King Yumyum.

Everyone, including the BOSS stares at the screen. It shows a massive blue alien in the shape of a mug with a handle on his side. He also has the normal two eyes and mouth.

ALIEN

Hello, Earth. Glad to see you.

Everyone cheers with huge excitement.

ALIEN

I'm hoping this meeting will lead to a golden age for both our planets, or as we aliens say 'ghmopmpfdsmkmmkmmfdsfd'. It's a tough language but it would be a massive compliment to me and my fellow aliens if you at very least learned the basics. Or as we aliens say 'nkfds'.

The BOSS faces his EMPLOYEES.

BOSS

Nkfds. Let's all say it together!

Everyone does so.

ALIEN  
Perfect! I can already see that we're  
going to end up being the very best  
of friends!

Everyone cheers some more.

A MAN in his late 70s bursts into the room. It's ALAN SUGAR.

ALAN  
(to the boss)  
I got here as fast as I could! I  
heard about the alien, and I can  
barely control my excitement!

BOSS  
Me too. I understand you're here to  
discuss business opportunities with  
the alien?

ALAN  
Oh I have BIG plans, not just for him  
but the whole of alien kind!

ALIEN  
And who are you my excellent friend?

ALAN  
Me? I'm Alan Sugar. And you're fired.

The whole room gasps in horror.

BOSS  
Now, now, Alan... Not this again...

ALIEN  
I'm sorry?

ALAN stares at the ALIEN defiantly.

ALAN  
How many aliens are you leading,  
exactly?

BOSS  
No Alan, please...

ALIEN  
I'm leading billions of aliens...

ALAN  
And what is it that they do?

ALIEN  
All sorts of things, just like the  
people on your planet...

ALAN  
Well, they're fired too.

ALAN exhales deeply with satisfaction.

ALIEN  
You can't just fire everybody!

ALAN  
Sure I can. If I can fire the whole  
of Earth, which I have done albeit  
briefly, I can fire you and your  
friends.

ALIEN  
Why?

BOSS  
Well?

ALAN  
Not sure.

BOSS  
Look Alan, you need to understand  
that these aliens are on our side!  
They can offer their secrets of space  
travel, medicine, maths, you name it!

ALIEN  
No. Not now.

Everyone in the room groans.

BOSS  
Oh great.

ALAN  
Wow, what an attitude. He's fired.

BOSS  
Take that back, Alan. Please.

ALAN  
I can fire YOU, you know?

BOSS  
Alan!

ALAN  
Look, maybe I could hire the alien if  
he works for my company...

(MORE)

ALAN (cont'd)

But I'm only allowed one business partner otherwise my TV show wouldn't work. I'd have to change the plot and it would be so much hassle I'd have to fire all of those working on it, again.

ALIEN

Look Alan, despite what you've been told, you can't just fire people. It doesn't work like that.

ALAN

It's worked for me...

ALIEN

Yes, but how is it going to work on me?

ALAN

I don't like your attitude, you're fired.

ALIEN

I'm still here...

ALAN

Oh yeah. I can get everyone here to turn the TV off, though.

ALIEN

If they do that, you'll be fired...

BOSS

Yes, Alan the alien is right. You're fired from coming to this space station, but don't worry as I have a gift!

ALAN

Go on...

The BOSS walks to ALAN and hands him a parcel which he opens. It's a hand held console with writing on it.

ALAN

(reading)

Alan Sugar the video game?

BOSS

Yes! You can fire whoever you want. In the end level you face king Yummy!

ALAN  
Thank you king Yumyum and thank you  
space centre boss...

ALAN leaves the room as everyone sighs with relief. A STAFF  
MEMBER puts his hand up.

BOSS  
Yes?

STAFF MEMBER  
He's coming back though, isn't he?

BOSS  
Oh almost certainly. I'll lock the  
door.