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Subject: Re: Learning The Ropes  
Posted by [Tikatu](#) on Tue, 24 Jul 2012 21:32:14 GMT  
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Monday, March 5th, 2068, 4:45PM; Tracy Industries Washington D.C. offices

Lena was finishing up for the day and wondering why she hadn't heard from Mr. Hackenbacker yet, when her computer indicated a priority email had just arrived. She quickly saved her work and opened the window. The email was brief and to the point:

"Mrs. Matumbo, the cause of the problem has been found. However it is essential that I speak with you immediately. Please call the number below as soon as you get this.

Hiram Hackenbacker"

She found the number and picked up the phone. She heard only one ring before the call was answered. "Mrs. Matumbo?"

"Yes. Mr. Hackenbacker?"

"That is correct. I'll get right to the point. I need you to come here. How soon can you be ready?"

"What? Tonight? I can't just . . ."

"Mrs. Matumbo, I have several priority projects on my plate already. I need help. More specifically, I need your help. I've already spoken to Mr. Tracy and gotten authorization to bring you here. Will you come?"

Lena was silent for a moment, stunned. Then she sighed and, checking her calendar, said, "I suppose so. There's nothing scheduled for the next few days, and I don't have any personal appointments. So I suppose I can get away for a bit."

"You'll probably be here for about a week, Mrs. Matumbo. And I suggest you pack warm weather clothes. We'll have a car pick you up at your home at 7:30 and take you to the airport."

"Warm weather? Where am I going?"

"You'll see. The Tracy home is not where most people think it is. I suggest you get started. You don't have much time. I look forward to meeting you. I've used some of the programs you've developed in my own work."

"Thank you, Mr. Hackenbacker. I look forward to meeting you, too," she replied. The call was disconnected and she sat back in her chair, still stunned. She couldn't believe the conversation she'd just had. Finally, she looked at the clock and noticed the time.

4:55PM.

She quickly got up and hurried out to where her staff was. They were finishing up, getting ready to

leave. She called for their attention.

"I have just been summoned away on company business related to de glitch I found dis morning. I'm leaving tonight and I've been told I'll probably be gone a week. So, if dere's any management decisions to be made, Tom, who has seniority and de wisdom, I hope," she winked at him, "to make de right ones, is in charge. If he is away, den Louise will help. If anyone comes looking for me, tell dem what I've told you. I know you all will do your jobs just as well as if I was here, so I'm not worried. Oh, Tom, Mr. Wilson may be pestering dis department about de glitch. Just tell him I've been requested to work wit Mr. Hackenbacker on de problem. Dat should shut him up, I tink."

She grinned and everyone laughed. They wished her a safe trip and she went back to her office to finish up. Ten minutes later, she was on her way to her car to head home, pack and head out to who knew where.

Post by Hobbeth on 22/08/2004

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