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INT. VICKY'S OFFICE -- MORNING

VICKY is a 42 year old red head with a "straight-to-the-point" mentality. She is sitting behind her cluttered desk talking with Phil, the middle-aged VP of the network who also happens to be Vicky's ex-husband, and his young, pretty assistant. The office walls are covered with posters from the country of Lichtenstein. (Including one that says "Survival of the Fittest 12 - Live in Lichtenstein").

VICKY

Anyway, I wish you were here about an hour ago cause I just finished looking at some great footage that we got of Lichtenstein. Some great shots.

PHIL

Is it Lichtenstein or Lichtensteen?

ROSE

I'm not sure.

PHIL

I think if your Jewish, it's Lichtensteen but...

VICKY

Well whatever they call themselves, they've just agreed to pick up most of our costs in exchange for the publicity they'll get for hosting "Survival of the Fittest- Live in Lichtenstein...Steen.

The door bursts open and in pops TAD, the good looking but dim-witted game show host who's been in his late thirties for the past twenty years.

TAD

Someone say something about hosting?

VICKY

(annoyed)  
No, Tad. Go away.

TAD

Gotcha.  
(winks and points)  
Just call me when you need me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Tad leaves.

PHIL

Oh, well that sounds great, Vicky.

ROSE

Yeah, really great deal.

VICKY

Well, my crew has really done a wonderful job...in following my lead. I'm very proud of them. Cause after all these years we're almost like a family now. You know? As a matter of fact, we already have a couple of good ideas for next year's show.

PHIL

Well that's kind of what I wanted to talk to you about.

Vicky looks concerned.

PHIL (CONT'D)

We've had a great run.

ROSE

Heck, twelve years is a terrific run.

Vicky quickly glares at Rose.

PHIL

But this is probably going to be our last season with Survival of the Fittest.

VICKY

What?! Why? Is it my crew?

PHIL

No, no. Of course not.

VICKY

Cause I'll fire every last one of 'em right now. They've all gotten waaay too comfortable and they've been starting to piss me off...

Rose looks a little confused.

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PHIL

No, no. Vicky, you've all been great.

ROSE

It's just that the ratings have been going down steadily over the past few seasons...

PHIL

Six, to be exact.

VICKY

Oh, what a shocker, Phil. You trying to imply that the show's been on the decline since our divorce?

PHIL

Maybe you lost your creative edge in the settlement.

ROSE

I honestly think they just finally made enough copies of this show to splinter our audience into too many pieces.

VICKY

(angrily at Rose)

Oh really?! So you don't think it's because I lost my creative edge in the settlement!!! I should set you up with our host, Tad. Then the two of you could have a dumb-off!

PHIL

Don't take this out on Rose, Vicky. This is strictly a numbers game.

VICKY

Oh, that's crap and you know it.

PHIL

No, it's not. Why would you even say that?

VICKY

First of all, cause you can't get that stupid grin off your face.

Phil can't seem to wipe the grin off his face.

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VICKY (CONT'D)

And! And, you idiot, we just had a huge ratings spike 2 seasons ago.

PHIL

That was four seasons ago and it was only because one of your contestants had a heart attack during an episode.

VICKY

And you don't think I can do that again?! Believe me, I can give a man a heart attack.

Phil nods like he believes it.

VICKY (CONT'D)

Or.. Or we go one better. I think seizures are hip now, aren't they? Easy! We'll find someone prone to...

PHIL

Vicky, please. We just feel that reality tv is at the end of it's run.

ROSE

Heck, it was a terrific run.

Vicky glares.

PHIL

But there's just not enough reality in reality tv anymore.

ROSE

People just aren't buying it.

PHIL

*Scripted* reality. Now that's what people want.

ROSE

Scripted reality. Now that's real.

Vicky looks disappointed. After a moment of silence, the door opens and Bruce walks in, dragging a chair. He places it next to Rose.

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CONTINUED: (4)

BRUCE  
(whispering)  
Here you go.

Bruce turns and walks out.

END OF TEASER