

# **THE APPLICANT**

by  
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CHARACTERS

APPLICANT

JOB POSTING

\*Both roles can be played by either female or male actors.

A sentence that ends without any punctuation indicates an unfinished thought.

A sentence with a "/" indicates an interruption and the start of the next line.

A "--" that appears mid-sentence indicates a change in thought or sputtered speech.

*Lights up on APPLICANT (early 20's), dressed in job-interview attire that was clearly purchased on a tight budget.*

APPLICANT

Dear United Worldwide Dynamic Logistics Incorporated.

*Lights up on JOB POSTING (30's or 40's) dressed very professionally and holding a clipboard. Appears intimidating.*

APPLICANT

Please accept this application for the Administrative Assistant position you are currently looking to fill. I saw the job posting on JobBuilderPro.com and could not be more excited to throw my hat into the ring!

JOB POSTING

United Worldwide Dynamic Logistics Incorporated is an equal opportunity employer. For over 40 years we've been one of the nation's leading providers of dynamic logistics. We are a mission driven organization seeking highly-talented and passionate dynamic logistic enthusiasts to join our team.

APPLICANT

Awesome. Yes, that's totally me. I love logistics. Like basically anything to do with logistics and I freak out because they just get me so pumped up. Especially *dynamic* logistics so

JOB POSTING

Position summary: The administrative assistant is responsible for handling a high volume of telephone calls--

APPLICANT

I'm great on the phone.

JOB POSTING

Invoice processing--

APPLICANT

Invoices! At the internship I just finished up / I was--

JOB POSTING

Record keeping--

APPLICANT

I'm organized.

JOB POSTING

Maintenance of department files and calendars--

APPLICANT

Yeah like *crazy*-organized. My friends say I'm OCD and I don't even think they're trying to be funny.

JOB POSTING

Coordinate and arrange travel--

APPLICANT

I'm good there too.

Example: My family went to Hawaii two years ago and I basically planned the *entire* thing. For four people mind you.

JOB POSTING

Draft and proofread routine correspondence for review and approval by the supervisor--

APPLICANT

Great. Yes. This is all right in my wheelhouse.

*(now rehearsed)*

The responsibilities at my recent internship mirrored many of those mentioned here. I thrive in high-pressure environments and work well independently. My supervisors have always / relied upon--

JOB POSTING

Job Requirements:

APPLICANT

Oh okay.

JOB POSTING

Highly proficient computer skills.

APPLICANT

I'm your man [gal].

JOB POSTING

Experience with Windows and MS Office Suite.

APPLICANT

Outlook is my bitch.

JOB POSTING

60 words per minute typing speed..

APPLICANT

I guess I'm probably pretty close but I've never / officially tried to--

JOB POSTING

Ability to multi-task.

APPLICANT

Check.

JOB POSTING

Flexible for overtime.

APPLICANT

Double check.

JOB POSTING

Ability to deal with difficult and aggressive supervisors.

APPLICANT

Wait--

JOB POSTING

Ability to withstand a high volume of screaming, yelling, berating, down-putting, self-esteem dismantling.

APPLICANT

Okay that actually sounds / a little intense--

JOB POSTING

At least four years experience as an executive assistant supporting senior level management.

APPLICANT

Well I don't *quite* have four years experience but, seriously, I'm so perfect for this. If you call my intern supervisor she'll tell you how / dedicated I was--

JOB POSTING

An Associate's degree in Secretarial Science--

APPLICANT

Secretatiral--wait that's a degree?

JOB POSTING

Fluent in both Spanish and Swedish.

APPLICANT

Okay hold on, hold on! Listen, except for those last couple, I am like *so* in line for this. I mean, I can still do a great job for you guys without *needing* a degree in Secretarial Science, right?

JOB POSTING

UWDL Inc. prefers someone who has a degree in the field.

APPLICANT

Is there such a thing as an *assistant* field? I'm trying to get my foot in the door here. Like, *any* door.

JOB POSTING

UWDL Inc. feels that--

APPLICANT

And I'm totally okay with all the yelling and stuff. I thought that over and I'm totally okay with it. Seriously, I would do such an awesome job for you guys.

JOB POSTING

United Worldwide Dynamic Logistics Incorporated doesn't see this as a 'foot in the door' type position. I'm afraid that you're not exactly the / type of--

APPLICANT

Okay waitwait! If there is just some way we could meet in person--if you just give me that chance I'm sure you'd be able to see how hard I'm willing to work for UW, uh D-whatever!

JOB POSTING

It just doesn't work that way.

APPLICANT

Fuck. Fucking shit. Why's this always happen?  
And this was posted like two hours ago which means you've probably already gotten like a hundred applications, right?

JOB POSTING

Two hundred and twelve actually.

APPLICANT

Jesus. It took me thirty minutes to write this worthless cover letter and now it's buried under two hundred other applications. No one's even going to read this, are they?

JOB POSTING

Probably not, no.

APPLICANT

Figures.

*(sighs, at a loss)*

This totally sucks man.

JOB POSTING

I'm sorry.

APPLICANT

I mean, this is seriously like the most depressing thing on the face of the earth. Isn't it? Everyday I have to motivate myself to shuffle through the endless listings of jobs I in *no* way qualify for. Once a week I find something I could *probably* B.S. my way through. So I paste together an email expressing my completely fabricated excitement for working for this company I've never heard of.

Once I'm finished begging and pleading with the imaginary person on the other end of this email--only *then* is when I realize that this whole process has taken me too long and that literally hundreds of more qualified people have beaten me to the punch.

JOB POSTING

There's just not enough time to--

APPLICANT

I get it. I understand. You have to agree it's all pretty hopeless though. I mean, did you have to go through this to get your job?

JOB POSTING

This isn't a job. I'm only a job posting on the internet.

APPLICANT

Oh. Well sure.  
You're doing great though.

*Brief pause. Job Posting considers.*

JOB POSTING

Am I?

APPLICANT

Sure man. I see a lot of you guys, I mean *constantly* and you're one of the better ones. One of the better postings I mean.

JOB POSTING  
*(bo-hum)*

Thanks.

APPLICANT

I'm not just saying that. Really informative.

JOB POSTING  
*(now easing)*

That means a lot. I sometimes wonder if I still have a passion for it. People think it's easy, just passing on the info. Job Description, Salary Requirements, Qualifications. Blah, blah, blah. That's only the half of it. The worst part is hearing from hundreds and hundreds of people desperate for a job. Hopeless resumes. It's all I see and it's...*depressing*. I generate a lot of sadness.

APPLICANT

Oh don't say that.

JOB POSTING

It's true. The Job Posting personifies what everyone in this country is so pissed off about.

APPLICANT

I guess I never really thought of it that way.

JOB POSTING

But I make it a point never to forget anyone who applies to one of my postings. Just as a matter of principle. I've seen *you* before actually. I don't know if you know that.

APPLICANT

Really?

JOB POSTING

Sure. I was the post three weeks ago for Liberty Resource Development Universal and you applied.

APPLICANT

Oh that's right! I nailed that cover letter. How am I looking for that?

JOB POSTING

Uh. Not great.

APPLICANT

Damn. And this one?

*Pause. Job Posting shakes their head 'no'.*

APPLICANT

Damn.  
I don't even know why I use this stupid website. It's like the worst one.

*Pause.*

JOB POSTING

You don't want this job anyway.

APPLICANT

I don't?

JOB POSTING

It only makes \$11 an hour.

APPLICANT

Oh.  
I mean, I'd take it if I could get it.

JOB POSTING

And it's part-time.



APPLICANT

Oh.

JOB POSTING

And the boss is a total asshole.

APPLICANT

Ah. Okay. Yeah I guess I kinda figured that from the whole yelling-berating question.

JOB POSTING

So

APPLICANT

Yeah so maybe it's a good thing.

*Brief pause.*

JOB POSTING

But I can give you a heads up next time I see something you might be a fit for.

APPLICANT

Really? You can do that?

*Job Posting shrugs.*

APPLICANT

That would be...*awesome*.

JOB POSTING

Don't worry about it.

APPLICANT

Okay. Okay, thanks.

And maybe I'll run into you again tomorrow.

JOB POSTING

Yeah, I should be out and about with a few things.

APPLICANT

Okay. Good luck with the postings.

JOB POSTING

Yeah, good luck with the applications.

APPLICANT

Thanks.

*Applicant turns to leave.*

JOB POSTING

One more thing!  
And this is only a suggestion. But you might want to take the acapella group you in in college off your resume.

APPLICANT

Oh. Okay.  
Just--So that's not impressive in anyway?

JOB POSTING

Uh, no. 'Fraid not.

APPLICANT

Okay.  
*(pause)*  
I had the solo in 'For the Longest Time'.

JOB POSTING

That's great.

APPLICANT

Still leave it off?

JOB POSTING

Still leave it off.

APPLICANT

Got it, got it.

*Applicant starts to exit then pauses. Starts to quietly, almost timidly, sing the first few bars of "For the Longest Time" by Billy Joel.*

APPLICANT

*(singing)*  
Whoooooa ohhh ohhh oh. For the longest--

JOB POSTING

Really. Not that it's not impressive.

APPLICANT

Right, right.

JOB POSTING

See you tomorrow.

*Applicant turns.*

APPLICANT

Only if it's something I can bullshit.

*Lights*

END OF PLAY