

Kris may be the bookkeeper for the most prominent publication in the industry, but you probably don't know much about her, if anything at all. That's ok. She prefers it that way. Work is work, and life is everything else. Quiet, soft-spoken and maybe a touch enigmatic, she's happy to let the silence between her words say as much as the words themselves. But even still, there's a gentle kindness within the quiet, a sweet spirit as well as a keen wit that you should overlook only at your own peril. Ralph may be the captain of this ship, but Kris is most assuredly his anchor.

Tell me about what you do.

I do the bookkeeping here. I invoice all the customers and pay all the bills.

How did you end up working for HQ in the first place?

I've known the owner for like 20 years. I was working for a different company and the magazine used to be next door to them. The owner's son was Roger, Ralph's partner on *HQ* and *PAIN*.

How long have you been working with the company?

I came on in the middle to end of 2016.

And what was that transition like to come from your previous job and work in this environment?

Well, you know, I'd been working in retail and dealing with a lot of people. That's what I was doing for like, practically 20 years. Now, coming into this space, I don't have that one to one personal contact anymore. It's actually quite nice. It's a little more quiet. A little less stressful in some ways.

Interesting. I really wouldn't expect the term, 'quiet' to come up.

It is. I kind of come in on my own hours and yeah, I mean, there are just a few sales people around here and I don't really interact with them all that much. Just come in, do my job and leave.

That does sound nice. Would you consider your previous retail experience more mainstream?

Oh yeah, definitely.

Favorite aspect of your job?

Well, like I said, I get to set my own hours. If I need to take care of something during the day, I can leave and come back . . . Everything around here is very flexible and very trusting. And Ralph, he's pretty flexible on anything. If you need something, if you need to leave, he's always accommodating.

So tell me about Ralph. I've never met him, but everyone's saying such wonderful things about him. Monica swears that he's the best person alive. What's he like in the office?

Easy-going. Mellow. You can say pretty much anything you want around him . . . and as long as I've known him, he's always been there to help when he's needed.

Favorite stoner movie if you have one?

(Laughs) Not really . . . well, there was one. It had Matthew McConoughey and Ben Affleck . . .

Dazed and Confused!

That was it!

Ok, so if Ralph, as king of the office, offered to grant you one wish, what would it be?

Hmmm... More money?

(Laughs) Straight forward, but legit. I can dig.

Or just hand over the company? (Laughs) No, I'm kidding. What he does is just amazing. All the information he keeps track of; show dates, print dates, every aspect of this company. What I do is plenty for me. I don't know how he does it.

Pets?

2 Dogs, boy and girl.

College/major?

US Career Institute. Medical Billing Specialist.

Favorite movie?

Moonstruck

Favorite book?

Fifty Shades of Grey

Favorite band/artist?

Mozart