



Good morning, everyone. It's my pleasure to welcome you all to the annual Sungazing here on level 50, and, uh...

Wow, there's a lot of you.

SUNGAZING GATHERING • 1ST AVENUE • LEVEL 50 • 1200 SST

OK, so.

This is the first time we've had a rally like this, on Perihelion. And I'm Full Fusion, so believe me, I've been up here myself just about every year of my life. I know this is strange and new.

Now, His Honor strongly believes, as do we all, that today belongs to you. The people of Midway City.

And you've shown, every year, that more and more of you believe in coming together. Speaking as the Deputy Mayor, I believe that feeling of community is one of Midway's strongest attributes.

Speaking personally, it's a major reason I got into politics in the first place: to help grow that community.





But as the numbers grow every year, it's become more and more difficult to accommodate everyone comfortably and safely.

So we figured a little more organization couldn't hurt, right? The last thing we want is for the cops to come in and shut down the party.



Now, Mayor Romero will be here at 1330, just after the meteoroid burst. Before that, we've got some music for you, from Johnny Solaire himself.



But before that, I want to talk a little about what His Honor's already achieved since the summer, and the plans we have to make Midway the best city in the entire solar system...

We already know how to make it the best city, moron. I mean, for Christ's sake, is this kid even old enough to shave?



Hey, at least Zhirov's Full Fusion. Romero's a damn carpetbagger, hasn't even been here ten years.

Fusion or not, he's still a patsy. Look at him, dancing for the state.

So, we ready?



Sending now.





Morning, boss.

Coffee's brewed.

kncht
kncht

PRIVATE ROOMS OF STARZ NIGHTCLUB • FALCO € 40TH • LEVEL 3 • 1208 SST



You're a good boy, Benny.

I wish that kid of mine was half the man you are. [redacted] accountant...



We all got our talents, boss. Junior's a smart kid. Numbers make my [redacted] head spin, you know?



I ain't talking about the damn numbers/ I'm talking about his... you know, the scumbags he hangs round with.

kncht

You mean them?



Don't you say that word/ Don't you ever say that word in front of me, you hear? I got a [redacted] family --

kncht



Boss?
You all
right?



Boss!



██████████

Loretta!
Call the
ambulance!

YES,
BENITO.
CALLING
NOW.



ESTIMATED
RESPONSE TIME
IS TWENTY-FIVE
MINUTES, BENITO.
WHAT SHOULD I
TELL THEM?

██████████

What
do I do,
Boss?



You know
what, tell them
to forget about it!
I'll get him to the
██████████ hospital
myself!



...estimate there are over twenty thousand people here, an increase of ten percent on last year's Sungazing. No doubt Mayor Romero would like to take credit for that, but with the MFC threatening to derail...

"More than."



Say what?

"More than" twenty thousand, not "over". Twenty thousand's a number, expressing multiple units of people.

Can't just replace one word with another, or we'd be saying things like "more than my dead body".



Man, you gotta let that go.

Give yourself an ulcer.



You got the number dialed in?

We didn't plan for the MFC being there, man. Could spoil everything.

Are you nuts? This makes it better. Let's hold off till Mayor Gangsta's on the podium, when everyone's crowding around.



Then we'll tell everyone about the bomb.