

Ladies and gentlemen,

Wow, this is unexpected! I feel a bit like I've walked into a surprise birthday party that's actually for me, but nobody warned me to dress up. But here I am, and what an honor it is to receive this award for Best Employee!

First off, I'd like to thank coffee--for always being there in the morning when it seems like gravity is five times stronger. Also, a huge shout-out to my alarm clock for being the most persistent member of my support team.

I want to thank my wonderful colleagues for not just being teammates, but for pretending to laugh at my Monday morning jokes as if they're new every week. Seriously, you guys deserve a medal for your acting skills alone!

To my boss, thank you for recognizing what I do. Given all those times I've awkwardly stared at my screen during Zoom meetings just so you couldn't see me daydreaming about lunch, I'm truly honored.

On a more serious note, thank you to everyone here for making this a place where work doesn't feel like "work." If there's any real secret to someone being named Best Employee, it's definitely the incredible team I get to learn from and laugh with every day.

So here's to many more shared successes, lots more coffee, and hopefully, me finally figuring out how to work the office printer without needing to call IT.

Thank you, everyone!