

# BARGAIN TOWN

"Pilot"

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FADE IN:

EXT. BARGAIN TOWN DISCOUNT STORE PARKING LOT - DAY

A WELL DRESSED YOUNG MAN GETS OUT OF HIS CAR AND TAKES A LOOK AT THE FRONT OF THE STORE. A SWARM OF SHOPPERS CONTINUALLY GOES INTO AND OUT OF THE BUILDING. THE YOUNG MAN APPEARS TO TAKE A DEEP BREATH.

TRENT

(TO HIMSELF)

Well, here goes nothing.

TRENT GOES INTO THE STORE AND IS GREETED BY AN ELDERLY DOOR GREETER WHOSE NAME TAG REVEALS TO BE NAMED ELIZA.

ELIZA

Good Morning, sir and welcome to Bargain Town. Wait a minute- you're not selling anything, are you?

TRENT

No, I'm-

ELIZA

A preacher trying to sign up folks for your church? You know you have to do that outside.

TRENT

No, I'm the new-

ELIZA

Oh, a new hire. Head on back to the Manager's office, then. Welcome aboard and good luck- you're going to need it.

TRENT

Why thank you- I think.

TRENT BEGINS HEADING TOWARD THE BACK OF THE STORE  
AND GETS ACCOSTED BY A CUSTOMER.

MAN #1

You work here, buddy?

TRENT

Well, yes- I mean, no. Actually-

MAN #1

You guys here are stupider than I  
thought. Look, I bought these pants  
and I only wore them a couple of times  
before the pockets wore out. See?

THE MAN DEMONSTRATES THIS BY LIFTING UP HIS SHIRT.

TRENT

I'd like to help you, but I just  
started here and-

MAN #1

How long does it take to learn that  
the customer is always right?

TRENT

Well, that's true, but you see, I  
just-

MAN #1

Great then, you're taking them back.  
You want me to take off my pants right  
here and find a pair I like?

TRENT

No-

MAN #1

You're not taking them back then?

What the hell?

TRENT

No, what I meant was, I've only been working here for-

TRENT LOOKS DOWN AT HIS WATCH

TRENT (CONT'D)

Um, Three minutes? I'm not sure what the return process is, but I'm sure that it probably requires you to bring these pants back without you in them.

MAN #1

Well what would I wear outside?

Police'll arrest me if I'm not wearing pants.

TRENT

I don't know, maybe you could wear a different pair of pants?

MAN #1

You know, Hollywood, that's an idea.

Thank you.

THE MAN WALKS OFF, APPARENTLY SATISFIED. A YOUNG WOMAN PROFESSIONALLY DRESSED APPROACHES TRENT.

LISA

You know, with people skills like that, you could probably work here.

TRENT LOOKS AT HER, SURPRISED.

TRENT

Actually, I do work here- will work here, I mean-

LISA

I know. I was what do they call it? Joking? I would have assumed that anyone who could deal with Pantsless Pat would have a sense of humor.

TRENT

Pantsless Pat? You mean he's a regular?

LISA

No, but I like to give them names.

SHE HOLDS OUT HER HAND.

LISA (CONT'D)

I'd better let you know mine- I'm Lisa, one of the daytime Managers. You must be the newbie- Trent isn't it?

TRENT SHAKES HER HAND.

TRENT

Yes, I'm the new manager in training. Glad to meet you!

LISA

You might not be after the day is out. In fact, most of our newbies around here don't even last until lunch.

TRENT

You're that hard to new staff around here?

LISA

I don't have to be- they are.

LISA INDICATES THE CUSTOMERS IN THE STORE.

LISA (CONT'D)

Let's walk and talk. Are you just out of college?

TRENT

Not really. I've been examining my job options, evaluating offers-

LISA

You've been out of college and out of a job and we were the first folks who decided to hire you, huh?

TRENT

Well-

LISA

Don't be ashamed. We are the employer of last resort around here. Don't tell anyone, but I really wanted a technology job at first; then I came back down to earth and settled for here.

TRENT

(SOMEWHAT SURPRISED)

It can't be that bad?

LISA

No, it isn't. Let's see if Bradley is around.

TRENT

Bradley? Is he-

LISA

Don't worry, I don't expect you to know someone you haven't met yet. He's the store manager.

TRENT

Oh, Mr. Dalton.

LISA

(LAUGHING)

You have a lot to learn about the way they do things here.

SUDDENLY, THE STORE PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM BLARES INTO LIFE.

PA ANNOUNCER

Manager-in-Training Trent, please report to the Personnel office.

TRENT

Wow, how did they know I was here?

LISA

They have their ways. Good luck. You're going to need it.

LISA WALKS AWAY BEFORE TRENT HAS A CHANCE TO RESPOND.

TRENT

(TO HIMSELF)

Why do they keep saying that?

TRENT WALKS INTO THE BACK PART OF THE STORE AND PAST NUMEROUS MOTIVATIONAL SIGNS WITH DUBIOUS MESSAGES AND FEATURING SMILING PICTURES OF THE COMPANY FOUNDER. TRENT MAKES HIS WAY TO THE PERSONNEL OFFICE, WHERE THE DOOR IS OPEN.

TRENT (CONT'D)

Hello, Mr. Smith. You had me paged?

MR. SMITH LOOKS UP FROM HIS DESK.

ALEX

Call me Alex, please. We go by our first names here. It's good to see that you've made it to your first day!

TRENT

Well, it couldn't be that hard to just show up, huh?

ALEX

You'd be surprised. Do you have the forms with you that I had asked you to fill out?

TRENT

Yes, I have them right here.

TRENT PULLS OUT A STACK OF PAPERS FROM HIS NOTEBOOK AND HANDS THEM TO ALEX.

ALEX

Perfect. Let me see here...

ALEX PAGES THROUGH THE PACKET QUICKLY.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Oh my-

TRENT

Did I fill something out wrong?

ALEX

No, it's just that the FRT 650 form is missing.

TRENT

Really? I thought I had them all...  
Oh, wait a minute- I must have used that piece of paper for a bookmark.  
You see-

ALEX

You used the FRT 650 form for a bookmark?

TRENT

Well, I had finished filling all of these forms out and began reading a book that someone lent me. so-

ALEX

Well, you can't start today without the FRT 650 form.

TRENT

Really? But I have a meeting in a few minutes with Mr. Dalton.

ALEX

Bradley? You can't speak with him until you get your FRT 650 form back to me.

TRENT

I don't want to start out on the wrong foot.

(MORE)

TRENT (CONT'D)

Can't I pickup the FRP 600 form at lunch? I promise I'll bring it back with me.

ALEX

You mean the FRT 650. This is highly irregular. You're supposed to have all of your paperwork completed before you officially start work.

TRENT

Well, I don't think the world would end if I-

ALEX

Yes, but company policy strictly forbids anyone from starting work unless they have the FRT 650. I'm not sure what-

THE STORE MANAGER WALKS IN AND EXTENDS HIS HAND TO TRENT.

BRADLEY

Good Morning! Welcome to Bargain Town and the Manager-in-Training program. How are you this morning?

TRENT

Well, I'm fine thank you. How-

ALEX

Bradley, Trent doesn't have his FRT 650 form with him.

BRADLEY

Really? That is an issue, isn't it?

TRENT

Well, can't I just pick it up at lunch  
or fill it out now?

BRADLEY

Can he, Alex?

ALEX

I'm afraid that he can't. We only get  
one FRT 650 form per new hire. Could  
you go home now and pick it up?

TRENT

Couldn't I just pick it up at lunch?  
Who would know?

BRADLEY AND ALEX LOOK AT EACH OTHER.

BRADLEY

Well, this is highly irregular. Why  
couldn't you go home now and pick up  
the form again?

TRENT

Well, I could, but I was planning to  
go home for lunch anyway, so wouldn't  
that be a waste of time?

BRADLEY

We don't like waste around here, so  
you have a point there.

ALEX

But nobody is supposed to start work  
until we have the forms.

BRADLEY

Yes and what if Sir Jim walked in and noticed we had someone working here without an FRT 650?

TRENT

'Sir' Jim? You mean the company founder Jim Fenton? I thought he was dead- and American?

BRADLEY

Oh, Sir Jim isn't dead. You must be thinking of that other company's founder. And he is American, what would make you think any different?

TRENT

I thought that a person had to be an English citizen to be declared a Sir by the Queen.

BRADLEY

Oh, he's not a real 'Sir'. You obviously haven't yet read- that's it!

ALEX

What? He still doesn't have his FRT 650.

BRADLEY

Yes, but he does have to read all of the company learning materials, like Sir Jim's autobiography, the company handbook-

ALEX

So we can have him sit somewhere and just read these things until after lunch when he can get his FRT 650!

BRADLEY

Exactly.

(BRADLEY GRABS A STACK OF BOOKS AND THRUSTS THEM AT TRENT.)

BRADLEY (CONT'D)

Here, take these and sit in the Bargain Grill at the front of the store. You can begin reading these things-

(HE TURNS TO ALEX AND WINKS.)

BRADLEY (CONT'D)

and go home at lunch to pick up your FRT 650. So, if Sir Jim were to come in, you can honestly say that you're not officially working.

ALEX

Brilliant, Bradley!

(TRENT BEGINS WALKING BACK TO THE FRONT OF THE STORE.)

BRADLEY

Have fun reading these, Trent! You could even have breakfast up there. I really love the Sausage Grills, so you might want to try those.

(MORE)

BRADLEY (CONT'D)

Oh- and just for now, don't try to take advantage of the 2.5% employee discount just yet. You'll need to wait until we get your FRT 650.

TRENT

Wow, I'll have to resist the urge to take advantage of such a marvelous discount.

BRADLEY

That's the spirit!

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. BARGAIN TOWN GRILL - DAY

TRENT IS SITTING UP AT THE FRONT OF THE STORE, PORING THROUGH ONE OF THE COMPANY BOOKS THAT HE WAS ASSIGNED TO READ.

RAY

Hey, college boy! Long time no see!

TRENT

Hey, how's it going Ray? I haven't seen you since high school. How are you doing?

RAY

Okay, all things considered.

(RAY POINTS TO HIS BARGAIN TOWN NAME TAG.)

RAY (CONT'D)

So what brings you here? And why are you dressed up?

(MORE)

RAY (CONT'D)

Wait a minute- you're not the new  
Manager-in-Training are you? I didn't  
put together two and two and get five  
did I?

TRENT

Actually, no you didn't. I am the new  
Manager-in-Training.

RAY

What the heck are you doing up here  
then? Shouldn't you be walking and  
talking?

TRENT

Walking and talking?

RAY

That's what they call getting around  
the store and making sure everyone's  
doing what they're supposed to be  
doing. I've been studying some of the  
management materials.

TRENT

Oh, interested in becoming a Manager-  
in-Training yourself? That's great!

RAY

Yeah, but I didn't go out and get a  
degree like you did college boy, so  
that means at this rate, I'll be a  
Manager-in-Training just in time to  
see you retire.

TRENT

I'm sure it won't take that long.  
What do you do around here?

RAY

I'm the Bargain Grill Break Manager.

TRENT

Manager, huh? Sounds good!

RAY

I'm not the Manager. I'm the Break  
Manager.

TRENT

What's the difference?

RAY

Well, I'm only the manager of the  
Grill when any of the other managers  
are on their breaks.

TRENT

Oh. That makes sense. So are you some  
kind of Assistant Manager when the  
others are on duty?

RAY

No, I'm just a bus boy, College.

TRENT

That's not-

(LISA APPROACHES.)

RAY

Nice talking with you sir, now it's  
back to work for me.

(RAY EXAGGERATEDLY RETREATS TO THE BACK KITCHEN AREA OF THE BARGAIN TOWN GRILL.)

LISA

That was weird. He actually seemed to be enjoying his discussion with you. That's strange for a member of management.

TRENT

Oh, he's not a member of management. He's only in charge when someone goes on their break.

LISA

I knew that. I meant you, you're a member of management. Most of our partners around here don't like talking to management unless they have to.

TRENT

Really? I thought everyone got along well around here.

LISA

You've been watching too many commercials. And reading too many books. What are you doing sitting up here reading these? Normally you'd be walking and talking and you wouldn't get around to reading these until your second week- and we have a study room in the back for that.

TRENT

I forgot my FRT 650, so they decided to make me sit up here and read this until after lunch when I go home and pick up that form.

LISA

That is kind of a convoluted solution to that problem. Must have been Bradley's idea.

TRENT

Yes. And approved of by 'Anal Alex'.

(LISA LAUGHS)

LISA

That's a good nickname for him. No wonder you're a hit with the partners. Wait until management makes you do something that the partners won't like. Then you'll see how much they really like you. Well, enjoy your reading material. I have to meet with the paint representative. Doesn't that sound exciting?

(LISA LEAVES AND RAY RETURNS.)

RAY

What did she say? Am I going to get written up?

TRENT

Actually, she thought it was nice that I was talking to one of the 'partners'. Says you guys don't normally talk to management.

RAY

That's probably true. I don't see you as a member of management, however.

TRENT

Gee, thanks.

RAY

You know what I mean. Besides, I think Lisa has a thing for you.

TRENT

Really? Not that I care or anything.

RAY

Don't act dumb. She's number two on my list of Bargain Town hotties.

TRENT

Who's number one?

RAY

Look over there. See the CSM?

TRENT

CSM? What's that?

RAY

The hot chick in the vest behind the money pedestal.

(IN THE DISTANCE, WE SEE A YOUNG LADY CAREFULLY COUNTING OUT CHANGE FROM A CASH DRAWER.)

TRENT

Okay. Her. What's her name and why is she number one? She looks nice and all but-

RAY

Her name is Carrie. And wouldn't you want to say you did a professional stripper?

TRENT

Professional stripper? Why would she be doing this then?

RAY

For extra money? I don't know.

TRENT

But a stripper could make hundreds of dollars a night in tips alone. It would take weeks to make that much here. It doesn't make sense, but if that's what she's told everyone-

RAY

Told everyone? She keeps it a secret.

TRENT

So she told you?

RAY

No. I heard it from someone over in housewares.

TRENT

So this is just a store-wide fantasy? I still don't believe it.

RAY

Believe what you will. I'd better get  
back up to the counter; I think the  
manager is going on break. Oh and by  
the way-

TRENT

Yes?

RAY

(POINTING AT THE SAUSAGE GRILLS ON  
TRENT'S PLATE.)

As one old friend to another, I  
wouldn't order those again if I were  
you.

RAY GETS UP AND WALKS BACK BEHIND THE COUNTER.  
TRENT QUIETLY THROWS THE CONTENTS OF THE TRAY IN  
THE NEARBY TRASH CAN AND SETTLES BACK IN TO HIS  
READING.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. BARGAIN TOWN DISCOUNT STORE - DAY

TRENT HAS RETURNED FROM LUNCH WHERE HE HAS RETRIEVED  
HIS FRT 650. THE SAME DOOR GREETER FROM THE MORNING  
IS AT THE FRONT OF THE STORE.

ELIZA

Why you've returned. We all thought  
you'd quit like the rest of them.

TRENT

Quit like the rest of them? What's  
tha-

SUDDENLY THE PA SYSTEM ROARS TO LIFE.

PA ANNOUNCER

Manager-in-Training Trent, please  
report to the personnel office. Manager-  
in-Training Trent, please report to  
the personnel office.

TRENT

How do they do that?

ELIZA

It's these cameras. That's why I don't  
use the bathroom around here.

TRENT

Right. Well, thanks for the words of  
advice.

TRENT WALKS TOWARDS THE BACK OF THE STORE AGAIN  
AND WAVES AT HIS FRIEND RAY WHEN HE PASSES THE  
SNACK BAR. RAY LOOKS DOWN AND IGNORES HIM.

TRENT (CONT'D)

(TO HIMSELF)

I have to learn how things work around  
here...

HE ARRIVES AT THE PERSONNEL OFFICE AND HANDS HIS  
FRT 650 TO ALEX. HE LOOKS AT IT CAREFULLY.

ALEX

Okay, everything seems in order...

ALEX BREATHES A SIGH OF RELIEF.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Now that this little thing has been  
taken care of, Welcome to the Bargain  
Town family! I'll make everything  
official once I stamp the FRT 650.

TRENT

What an auspicious occasion!

THE SARCASM IS LOST ON ALEX.

ALEX

Indeed it is! Now as for the rest of your first day- you get to sit in on our New Partner Orientation!

TRENT

Really? I thought I was supposed to follow the Store Manager around- 'walkee talkee' or whatever?

ALEX

Walking and talking, yes. That is the normal course of action for a first day Manager-in-Training, but Bradley was called away for an important personal reason, so we decided that you could sit in on the New Partner Orientation that the non-management folks experience.

TRENT

Sounds fun.

ALEX

It is! We need another person to sit in anyway, so you're it. Come with me.

THEY WALK TO A PLAIN LOOKING CONFERENCE ROOM WHERE SEVEN NEW HIRES ARE SITTING, WAITING FOR THEIR CLASS TO BEGIN.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Good Afternoon, y'all. This is our newest Manager-in-Training and he's going to sit in on our session. His name is Trent. Normally, a Manager-in-Training doesn't sit in on one of our orientations, so you're all in luck!

THE GROUP GIVES TRENT SUSPICIOUS LOOKS AS HE SITS DOWN AMONG THEM.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Let's begin with a visit from the man who started it all- Sir Jim!

WHILE HALF THE PEOPLE IN THE CLASS LOOK TO THE DOOR TO SEE IF HE IS GOING TO WALK IN, THE REMAINDER LOOK TO A TV AND VCR UNIT OFF TO THE SIDE.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I bet I fooled y'all into thinking that he was going to walk in that door. Well, always be ready for a visit from him at all times. Today, however, we're going to see him on our TV!

ALEX HITS PLAY AND BACKS AWAY FROM THE TV SET. THE BARGAIN TOWN LOGO APPEARS ON THE SCREEN AND SUDDENLY A MAN WHO APPEARS NEAR DEATH APPEARS, SITTING ON A WICKER CHAIR ON A CUT RATE CABLE ACCESS LOOKING SET.

ANNOUNCER

And now, Bargain Town partners, we present- Sir Jim!

SIR JIM APPEARS TO PERK UP A BIT (BUT NOT MUCH)

SIR JIM

(READING UNEMOTIONALLY FROM A CARD.)

Hello, Folks and welcome to the Bargain  
Town family! I sure hope that you're  
as excited to be here as I am to talk  
to y'all.

SIR JIM CLOSSES HIS EYES, AN ACTION THAT FRIGHTENS  
AN OLDER WOMAN IN THE FRONT.

OLD WOMAN #1

Is he dead?

TRENT AND THE OTHERS STIFLE THEIR LAUGHS AS ALEX  
LOOKS DISAPPROVINGLY AT THE WOMAN.

ALEX

No, he's building up to something.

TRENT

(WHISPERING TO HIMSELF)

Building up to a heart attack....

SIR JIM

Bargain Town is a special place to  
work- as you'll find out today. As  
our newest partners, you are our face  
to our customers. May your face always  
have a smile. Thanks for listening.

TRENT

(WHISPERING TO HIMSELF)

What the-

THE SCREEN QUICKLY FADES TO BLACK. THE OLDER WOMAN  
FROM BEFORE RAISES HER HAND.

OLD WOMAN #1

Are we supposed to remember what he just said? That didn't make any sense.

ALEX

It makes perfect sense. You should always smile to our customers and make them feel valued. Now on to the next video-

OLD WOMAN #1

Now that makes sense. But it isn't what he said.

ALEX

It might not be exactly what he said, but it is what he meant. Now moving on, let's watch a video about sexual harrassment.

ALEX TAKES OUT THE FIRST TAPE AND POPS IN THE NEXT ONE FROM HIS TAPE PILE. WE SEE THE BARGAIN TOWN LOGO AND WORDS 'SEXUAL HARRASSMENT VIDEO' ON THE SCREEN.

TRENT

(WHISPERING TO HIMSELF)

Creative Title....

ANNOUNCER

This videotape satisfies Bargain Town's legal responsibility for sexual harrassment training.

TRENT

(WHISPERING TO HIMSELF)

Really?

ANNOUNCER

We're going to show you some situations. Our helper will then pause the tape, giving you time to respond.

ALEX RAISES HIS HAND.

ALEX

That's me! I'm the helper!

WE THEN SEE A MAKESHIFT OFFICE. A WELL ENDOWED WOMAN IS TYPING AND A GENTLEMAN APPROACHES HER FROM BEHIND AND BEGINS MASSAGING HER SHOULDERS. BOTH OF THEM ARE POOR ACTORS.

VIDEO MAN #1

Hey, there hot stuff. How about we get rid of some of that stress?

VIDEO WOMAN #1

Don't! . . . Touch My Breasts!

TRENT ALMOST CHOKES TRYING NOT TO LAUGH. ALEX PAUSES THE VIDEO TAPE.

ALEX

Anyone? Is this sexual harrassment?

YOUNG WOMAN #1 RAISES HER HAND.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Yes?

YOUNG WOMAN #1

No. That is not sexual harrassment.

ALEX

Good. Now let's- what? You don't think that's sexual harrassment?

YOUNG WOMAN #1

Well she can't very well tell him to touch her breasts and then claim sexual harrassment, can she?

ALEX

But she told him not to touch her breasts.

YOUNG WOMAN #1

No she didn't. She said 'Dont!' then paused, then said 'Touch my breasts'.

ALEX

No, she told him 'Don't touch my breasts!'

YOUNG WOMAN #1

But his hands weren't anywhere near her breasts. And there was a definite pause in there.

ALEX

Well, even if she did say that, wouldn't it be sexual harrassment against him?

YOUNG WOMAN #1

Hah! A straight guy getting asked by a stacked woman to touch her breasts? That's a dream come true, not sexual harrassment!

ALEX

In any case, that is supposed to be sexual harrassment. Let's move on.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. BARGAIN TOWN CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

WE RETURN TO SEE EVERYONE LOOKING BLEARY EYED.  
ALEX'S TAPE PILE HAS COMPLETELY DWINDLED DOWN. HE  
TAKES A TAPE OUT OF THE VCR.

ALEX

So, now you all know why you shouldn't  
steal from Bargain Town. I guess that's  
it for these videos.

THE GROUP CLAPS.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Oh, yes. These are great videos, aren't  
they? Okay, now. Our next activity is  
a tour of our store! That should take  
an hour and finish out your first day  
here at the store.

THE OLD WOMAN RAISES HER HAND.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Yes?

OLD WOMAN #1

I shop here every week and don't  
need a tour. May I just leave early?

ALEX

No. Every Bargain Town employee has  
to take the tour.

OLD WOMAN #1

But I know where everything is already.  
I don't need a tour.

ALEX

It is Bargain Town policy that everyone has to take the tour. Besides, this will be a fun tour. Hiram will be leading it and he's the tour guide with the best feedback ratings in our store!

OLD WOMAN #1

(SARCASTICALLY)

Well in that case....

ALEX

Good. I'll page Hiram and he'll begin your tour shortly.

ALEX LEAVES THE ROOM. EVERYONE LOOKS AT EACH OTHER QUIETLY.

OLD WOMAN #1

If those videos weren't the biggest crock of sh- oh.

EVERYONE LOOKS AT TRENT.

TRENT

Don't stop on my account.

OLD WOMAN #1

But you're management.

TRENT

Maybe. But I still agree with you about-

ALEX WALKS IN.

ALEX

Hiram will be joining us shortly. So what are we talking about? You all agree about something?

OLD WOMAN #1

Oh it's nothing.

ALEX

Well I think it's great. We are all one big family here and whenever someone in management can find common ground with our partners, that's just wonderful. Good job, Trent.

EVERYONE TURNS TO TRENT AND GLARES AT HIM.

OLD WOMAN #1

(WHISPERING TO YOUNG LADY)

Just like management. Always coming up smelling like roses, even if they almost fall into sh-

AN ELDERLY GENTLEMAN WALKS INTO ROOM WEARING A NAME BADGE THAT READS HIRAM.

ALEX

Ladies and gentlemen; meet our super partner- Hiram!

ALEX WAITS A SECOND, AS IF EXPECTING TO HEAR APPLAUSE.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Okay, then. I'll leave you in Hiram's capable hands.

(MORE)

ALEX (CONT'D)

Since you'll be leaving after his  
tour is over, I just want to tell you  
all thanks for a super orientation  
and I'll see you tomorrow morning  
when I hand out your assignments!

ALEX LEAVES. HIRAM CLOSSES THE DOOR AND PULLS OUT A  
SHEET OF PAPER.

HIRAM

Where are my glasses? Anyway, the  
reason I'm the most popular tour guide  
is-

HIRAM FUMBLES THROUGH HIS POCKETS TO FIND HIS  
GLASSES.

HIRAM (CONT'D)

Hmm. Well, it's because I'll just say  
we've gone on a tour but- here we go.

HIRAM PUTS ON HIS GLASSES AND LOOKS UP STRAIGHT AT  
TRENT.

HIRAM (CONT'D)

Oh. What I meant was, let's get ready  
for our tour. Everyone, let's go!

EVERYONE GLARES AT TRENT WHILE GETTING UP TO TAKE  
THE TOUR.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. BARGAINTOWN DISCOUNT STORE - DAY

HIRAM

So, that concludes our hour long tour.  
Any questions?

EVERYONE GLARES AT TRENT AND MERELY WALKS AWAY.  
TRENT TURNS TO HIRAM.

TRENT

I'm sorry, really I-

HIRAM, WITHOUT RESPONDING, TURNS AND WALKS AWAY.  
JUST THEN, AN ELDERLY WOMAN APPROACHES.

OLD WOMAN #2

Sir, do you work here?

TRENT

Yes, I do. May I help you?

OLD WOMAN #2

I bought a dress here the other day  
and it still has the tag on it. Will  
you guys take it back? I don't have  
the receipt.

TRENT

Well, i just saw a video that showed  
they'll do just that. Just take it to  
the front and they'll be happy to  
help you. Let them know Trent,, the  
Manager in Training said it was okay.

OLD WOMAN #2

Thank you, young man. Such a nice  
fellow! You remind me of my grandson!

THE OLD WOMAN WALKS AWAY AND LISA WALKS BRISKLY UP  
TO TRENT.

LISA

What's this I hear about Hiram actually  
giving a tour today?

TRENT

I guess he thought he had to because I'm a member of management or something. Wait- he seemed to think that nobody in management knew that he just let everyone go home. You mean you know about it?

LISA

Oh, we all know, Everyone except for Bradley and Alex. We just don't do anything about it because we don't care. So how'd your day go?

TRENT

Fine I guess. Just a lot of boring videos. At least some of them were unintentionally funny.

LISA

(MIMICKING THE WOMAN FROM THE SEXUAL HARRASSMENT VIDEO)

Don't! .... Touch my breasts!

TRENT LAUGHS

TRENT

You have that down pretty well.

LISA

I have to fill in for Alex at training when he's not here.

TRENT

I suppose I wish that I would have made more of a difference today, though.

LISA

You probably thought you'd get an opportunity to make a big decision and management would instantly pat you on the back for it, right? You do know you're working at Bargain Town not Fantasyland, right?

TRENT

Yeah, but it still would have been nice to have been useful on my first day.

LISA

One can dream. Sometimes I dream about having a better job somewhere else. But then I always wake up and realize that I still work for Bargain Town.

THEY THEN BEGIN WALKING TOWARD THE BACK OF THE STORE.

TRENT

Well, at least I got a compliment from that nice lady who I was talking to. That makes everything worth it, I guess.

LISA

Whatever gets you through the day.  
You'll learn soon enough that workdays  
around here don't end meaningfully.  
They just end- wait a minute. That  
lady you were speaking to thinks you're  
a nice young man? You didn't tell her  
she could return a dress, did you?

TRENT

Yeah. She didn't have a receipt, but  
she said the tags were still on it.  
What's the matter?

LISA

They're gonna love you up at the  
customer service counter. She's been  
trying to return that filthy dress  
for months. She didn't even buy it  
here. It's from Wal-Mart, I think. So  
far nobody has been stupid enough to  
accept the return. Until now.

TRENT

(BLUSHING)

It can't be that bad.

LISA

Don't say I didn't warn you.

LISA WALKS AWAY FROM TRENT WHO STARES AT HER WITH  
A LOOK OF SHOCK.

PA ANNOUNCER

Manager in Training Trent, please  
come to the service desk immediately.

Manager in Training Trent, please  
come to the service desk immediately.

TRENT SHAKES HIS HEAD AND WALKS TOWARDS THE FRONT  
OF THE STORE.

FADE OUT: