

Sunday Players

Drama Resources

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Blessings for Sale (F)

By Melanie West

Synopsis: In this skit, life is changed in such a way that every blessing we have has to be purchased. One thankless man comes in and feels like one blessing will do, but once they cancel all the blessings he used to have but chose not to purchase, he begins to appreciate all that he had.

Cast: Two Characters. Blessing Sales Person (SP); Customer, Phyllis, should be female.

Opening Scene: A lemonade stand type of booth is set up, with a big sign on it saying "Blessings - \$100". Blessing Salesperson (SP) is seated, appearing to do paperwork.

Phyllis walks in with a letter in her hand.

Phyllis: Excuse Me?

SP: Yes?

Phyllis: I got this letter in the mail, saying I have to come here to buy my blessings. What's this all about?

SP: (sounding bureaucratic) We're changing the way things are done. It used to be blessings were just given out like candy to everybody. But then we put together the blessings committee, of which I am the chairperson, and we met every third Wednesday. There was a lot of disagreement between us, since Bertha was always saying...

Phyllis: Get to the point! Why was I called here?

SP: As I was trying to tell you, the blessings committee voted to change the way we hand out blessings. Now you have to buy them, for \$100 each.

Phyllis: A hundred dollars! That's going to limit me.

SP: We figure that's a bargain, considering the trouble they'll save you. After you've chosen which ones you'd like to purchase, we cancel all

blessings which were previously given to you for free. After the 16th of next month, all blessings will be canceled, so it's important for you to come in before that happens.

Phyllis: Ha! I doubt I would notice the difference. My life isn't exactly glorious!

SP: Is that so? You've got troubles?

Phyllis: Oh, don't get me started! Housework is a drag, and the kids are always fighting. But worst of all, my husband barely brings home enough money to put food on the table! Because of that I can only afford one blessing, but I know what it'll be. I want to be rich! That will solve that problem, at least.

SP: Oh, that's a new one! (yells behind her) Hey, Joe! We got one here who wants to be rich! What a shock! (still chuckling, then tries to become serious) You'll have to be specific. Rich in what way? How rich?

Phyllis: Well, rich with lots of money of course! Do I need to give you an amount? (SP nods, Phyllis has to think) Oh, how about a nice even million?

SP: Are you sure that's the only blessing you want? Remember, your old ones will be canceled as soon as we set up your new account.

Phyllis: Like I told you, what's to lose? (pays her \$100)

SP: (sighs) If that's what you want. (picks up phone) George? Yeah, set Phyllis up with a million bucks! (pause) Yeah, that's it. She didn't want anything else. (to Phyllis, looking tired) You're all set, the money's in the bank. (Hands her a paper) And here's your receipt. It'll probably just take a minute or two to clear your previous account.

Phyllis: (standing in place, admiring her receipt) Woo hoo! I'm rich! Oh, boy do I have plans! I'll ... ack! (drops to the floor, gasping. Can't move arms or legs)

SP: (looking at her papers) So, how are you enjoying your money?

Phyllis: (Gasping for breath)

SP: Go ahead and give me two quick gasps if you'd like the blessing of healthy lungs returned to you.

Phyllis: (gasp gasp)

SP: (picks up phone) debit her account for healthy lungs, George.

Phyllis: (takes a deep breath) I can't move my arms or legs.

SP: That's right. Luckily for you, the paperwork takes a little longer to get your heart turned off. You've got about five more minutes with your healthy heart.

Phyllis: (terrified) I'd like that back please!

SP: How would you like to pay for that? Cash, credit...

Phyllis: (panicking) JUST DEBIT MY ACCOUNT!

SP: Alright, alright. (picks up phone) George, go ahead and keep her heart turned on. (covers receiver and turns to Phyllis) Is there anything else you'd like, while I'm on the line with him?

Phyllis: Well, I can't see...

SP: (into receiver) eyes. (then to Phyllis) We assume you want them without glaucoma, cataracts, colorblindness,...

Phyllis: Perfect, 20/20 vision, just like I had.

SP: We've got a special today. That'll only count as 5 blessings.

Phyllis: (irritated) I can afford it.

SP: Okay (into phone) Give her her old eyes back. What else?

Phyllis: How about my arms and legs? I'd like to be able to use them again.

SP: Just like before, without arthritis, bad knees, corns, bunions, or bone spurs? Strong and capable?

Phyllis: Just the way they were, yeah!

SP: We'll give that to you as a package for the discounted cost of 10 blessings.

Phyllis: I can afford it! Go ahead!

SP: (into phone) did you catch that? Okay. (to Phyllis) He'll have you set up in just a minute.

Phyllis: (after a moment, she feels her strength return, gets up and brushes off) Ah, much better! And I should still have plenty left to enjoy. Well, thanks for everything. I'll just head home now.

SP: Home?

Phyllis: Yes, to my family..

SP: Family?

Phyllis: (realization slowly dawns on her) Oh no! Where are they? What have you done with my family?

SP: I don't think you fully understand yet.

Phyllis: Give me back my family!

SP: Okay, let's start with your husband. You want him like he was before, loving and hardworking? Hands over his paycheck to you?

Phyllis: He's supposed to give me his paycheck!

SP: Um-hmm. And how about your kids? You want all three back? Healthy and smart, like they were?

Phyllis: Of course I want all three! Alright, I can see where this is going. How much is it going to cost me to get all my old blessings back?

SP: Well, let's see your file. Okay, that would be... carry the '1' ...you'd have \$100 left.

Phyllis: Back where I started.

SP: That's right. Would you like to do that?

Phyllis: Yes, please.

SP: (into phone) You heard all that? Yeah, just get the information off her old account. Okay, you're all set up! And you have enough for one more blessing. You could still be rich!

Phyllis: (thoughtful pause). I believe I already am. (holds out her hand to shake hands with SP) It's been a pleasure meeting you. (exits quietly)