

SOMEBODY AND NOBODY *by John Cosper*

GENRE: Comedy/Light Drama

SYNOPSIS: As a “somebody” and a “nobody” describe their lives and their values, it becomes clear that the nobody is the true somebody.

TIME: 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2M

THEME: Measuring a person’s worth

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 1 Samuel 16:7

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Seeker Service; Sermon Illustration

CHARACTERS:

SOMEBODY—a great athlete

NOBODY—a great man

PROPS: Two rings (one wedding and one championship)

COSTUMES: Shirt and tie for nobody; nice suit for somebody

SOUND: Two wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Unspecified

DIRECTOR’S TIP: This can be staged like a Mac/PC commercial, but it wasn’t necessarily written in that style. Dialogue should be very fluid and rhythmic. The actors will need to be well-rehearsed on this piece.

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SOMEBODY and NOBODY enter.

SOMEBODY: Hello, I'm somebody.

NOBODY: And I'm nobody.

SOMEBODY: I have a real name.

NOBODY: So do I.

SOMEBODY: But I don't have to tell you.

NOBODY: It's not that important.

SOMEBODY: Mine is a household name.

NOBODY: Around my household, they just call me Dad.

SOMEBODY: I'm on the news every night.

NOBODY: I watch the news every night.

SOMEBODY: I bring joy and excitement everywhere I go.

NOBODY: I bring donuts to the morning meeting.

SOMEBODY: Kids hang my picture on their walls.

NOBODY: My kids' picture is on the wall of my cubicle.

SOMEBODY: Some folks say I'm not worth the trouble.

NOBODY: My last job eval called me a valued asset.

SOMEBODY: They say I don't keep my word.

NOBODY: When I'm given a job, it gets done.

SOMEBODY: Just because I broke a contract in Milwaukee.

NOBODY: Employee of the month in June.