

## THE TAPE

by SCOTT CRAIN

**GENRE:** Drama

**SYNOPSIS:** A down-and-out believer takes a look at his troubled past through rose-colored glasses.

**DIRECTOR'S TIP:** Neither of these characters are stereotypes. Keep them genuine for the desired effect.

**TIME:** 5 minutes

**CAST BREAKDOWN:** 1M, 1F

**THEME:** Christian Living, Sin

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Exodus 16:3

**CHURCH YEAR SEASON:** Any

**SUGGESTED USE:** Seeker Service, Worship Service

**CHARACTERS:**

SAMMY — woman in her mid-twenties

RICK — man in his mid-twenties

**PROPS:** Couch, coffee table, lots of beer bottles, TV remote, fast food bags, and general male clutter

**COSTUMES:** Contemporary

**SOUND:** Wireless mics, if desired

**LIGHTING:** General stage

**SETTING:** An apartment living room

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**Drama Ministry**

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*Lights up on RICK, unshaven and disheveled, sitting on his couch and staring at the TV with a dark expression. SAMMY enters, keys in hand, a purse slung over her shoulder.*

*RICK looks up and frowns.*

**RICK:** Sammy?

**SAMMY:** Rick.

*RICK recovers from his shock at seeing her and slips back into 'character' of being cool and nonchalant, his attention returning to the TV.*

**RICK:** That key was supposed to be for emergencies.

**SAMMY:** What do you call this? Emergency services should be notified for the smell alone.

*She takes a step in and accidentally kicks a beer bottle, sending it skittering across the floor.*

I like what you've done with the place. What do you call this motif—Early American Recluse?

**RICK:** *(eyes still on the TV)* You didn't bring a Bible, did you? Cuz I don't want any God-stuff in here.

**SAMMY:** Relax. *(prying open her purse and showing him the inside)* I'm unarmed. God-stuff?

**RICK:** Bibles, tracts, crucifixes, holy water. Bric-a-brac of the self-righteous.

**SAMMY:** I thought you were just depressed. Have you turned vampire, too?

**RICK:** I'm not depressed.

**SAMMY:** Oh here we go.

**RICK:** Some people get their hearts broken and go mad with grief. Not me. I've gone sane. Getting dumped by Stephanie actu—

**SAMMY:** *(exhausted by this, trying to cut him off)* She didn't "dump" you...

**RICK:** *(talking over her)* ...getting DUMPED by Stephanie actually opened my eyes to a lot of things. She said I wasn't what she 'needed spiritually'. And she's right. I'm a lousy Christian.

**SAMMY:** *(sighs)* Are you done?