

WHAT GOT INTO BARRY?

by John Cosper

GENRE: Comedy/Light Drama

SYNOPSIS: A group of office workers living in fear of a temperamental salesman are shocked and curious to discover his attitude has changed overnight.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: The character of Barry should look and appear menacing, unapproachable throughout the skit. That doesn't change until the moment Denise goes to speak with him. Let the audience feel the same surprise when Barry displays his new, better attitude.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 5

TOPIC: Christian Living

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matthew 28:5-7

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Easter

SUGGESTED USE: Seeker Services

CHARACTERS:

Barry—a mean, surly looking sales man

Marie—a receptionist

Mitch—a sales manager

Clancy and Denise—other sales reps

PROPS: Desks, telephones, paperwork, note pads, office equipment

COSTUMES: Business formal

SOUND: Five wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage; dark, dramatic lights on Barry, if desired

SETTING: An office

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BARRY is at a desk at far stage left. MARIE is at a desk at far stage right. Her phone rings.

MARIE: Wayland-Yutani, this is Marie... Yes... Uh huh... Uh huh... (*Sits back, a frightened look in her eyes*) I see. May I ask why?

MITCH enters with some files, stage right. He walks toward MARIE.

MARIE: (*Writing on a notepad*) Uh huh... Uh huh... Yes, of course. We'll pass the word along... Thank you.

MARIE hangs up.

MITCH: Something wrong?

MARIE: Pendleton-Baker. They're leaving us.

MITCH: What?

MARIE: They found a cheaper vendor. They're dropping their account.

MITCH: Whose account were they?

MARIE: Who do you think?

MITCH and MARIE look over at BARRY.

MITCH: Oh no.

MARIE: Yes.

MITCH: Barry is going to—

MARIE: I know.

MITCH: Can you wait and tell him when I go to lunch?

MARIE: Me tell him? You're the sales manager!

MITCH: Marie, last time I gave him bad news he threw a staple at my head!

MARIE: Last time I gave him bad news he threw a box of thumbtacks at me. Thumbtacks, Mitch! And that was right before my wedding!

MITCH: Keep your voice down!

MARIE: You can see the scabs in my wedding photos!