

BLIND MAN'S BLUFF

by KATHRYN M. GRAVES

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Bill and Bob are sitting on a park bench when a beautiful young woman walks by. Although Bill is literally wearing blinders, he still finds ways to “scope out” the woman, indulging his baser desires. Bob calls him not only on the behavior, but also on his ostentatious way of pretending he’s not doing it. Bill makes Bob realize that they both are guilty.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Take some extra rehearsal time to work on the moment where the woman walks by; the actor playing Bill should work on very exaggerated, but precise, “blinder movement” for the greatest comedic effect and clarity. One methodology for rehearsing sight gags like these is to number each movement (One is woman walking, two is Bill looking up, etc.) and count through the numbers slowly until the movements are sharp. Then you can increase the pace until it’s at regular speed.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 3

TOPIC: Grace, Sin

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Proverbs 27:17

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Marriage Conference, Dating Seminar, Male/Female Relationships Issues

CHARACTERS:

Bill-about 30 years old

Bob-same age as Bill

Woman-early twenties, attractive

PROPS: Two benches (or three chairs), brown bag lunches for all characters, one pair of glasses on which black construction paper “blinders” that have been duct taped to the ear pieces

COSTUMES: Corporate casual dress

SOUND: Two cordless mics

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Lunchtime in a park

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BLIND MAN'S BLUFF *by Kathryn M. Graves*

BILL and BOB walk to a bench, or two chairs, stage left and sit down. They have brown bag lunches that they begin to open. BILL puts on glasses with blinders on them.

BOB: What are those for?

BILL: You never know what you might see in the park!

BOB: Flowers, trees...

BILL: You know what I mean.

BOB: No, what?

BILL: *(In a loud voice)* Women!

BOB: *(Disgustedly)* Oh, come on!

A beautiful young woman walks in front of them to another bench, downstage right. BOB glances up and then continues eating. BILL jerks his head when the woman comes into his view and then trains his gaze on her. His behavior brings Barney Fife to mind. BILL is seated to BOB's left, so he has to stare past BOB to see the woman. She proceeds to open her lunch, unaware. BOB notices BILL'S stare and turns to stare at BILL. BILL doesn't notice BOB, but continues to stare at the woman. BOB clears his throat for attention. BILL turns so he can see BOB. Then he jerks his head to face straight ahead.

BOB: I saw you!

BILL: *(Innocently)* Saw me, um, hmm, what?

BOB: You know what I mean.

BILL: No, what?

BOB: Bill!

BILL: Bob!

Both turn away from each other in exasperation.

BOB: You know, Bill, those blinders aren't doing you any good.

BILL: Of course they are. Just imagine how many other women I'm not able to see.

Both resume facing forward.

BOB: There aren't any others.