

A script from



"The Checkout Lane"

by
Justin Jackson

- What** Isn't it easy to judge other people when you're inconvenienced? Before we start to point out the speck in someone else's eye, perhaps we should check out the plank in our own eye. **Themes:** Hypocrisy, Judgmental, Character, Attitude
- Who** Troy
Person 1
Person 2
Person 3
Clerk
- When** Present
- Wear (Props)** Go as big or as small with this as you want. The setting is a grocery store checkout lane. Everything can be mimed, or you can actually use the props talked about in the dialogue, which are several different kinds of groceries.
- Why** Matthew 7:1-5
- How** Several of Troy's first lines are voiceovers. This should be recorded beforehand and in plenty of time to practice cues with the other actors. Keep things moving along. It's easy to let the lines drag when there is a voiceover, so really stay on top of your lines.
- Time** Approximately 7-9 minutes

Lights up on three people in line at a grocery store quick check lane. The person at the front of the line is a pregnant woman with a double stroller filled with two kids as well as a toddler standing beside her. The second person in line is a well-to-do woman pushing a grocery cart. The third person is a sloppy-looking man holding a hand basket. Troy enters the scene holding a hand basket.

Troy VO: Oh, great. The quick check has a line. Maybe one of the normal lanes would be faster. Hey, lane 3 doesn't look too bad...except that Mrs. Soccer Mom just pulled in with her two carts overflowing with prepackaged lunch foods. Looks like someone has plenty of time to talk on her cell phone, but not to cut up any cheese for little Johnny's lunch. I'd better just stay where I am. This clerk looks at least moderately competent.

Clerk: How you doing today? *(Ringing up groceries.)*

Person 1: I'm fine. How are you?

Clerk: Just fine. *(To kids)* Well aren't you guys cute!

Troy VO: Check out this lady...three kids with another one ready to drop at any minute and no wedding ring. How do people wind up like that?

Clerk: I think I know who asked for these? *(Holding up some donuts.)*

Person 1: Those are his favorite.

Troy VO: Donuts. Cherries. Steaks. Cereal. I'm surprised she can afford all this stuff.

Clerk: Your total is \$32.25.

Person 1: Here you go. *(She pulls out some food stamps.)*

Troy VO: Ah... food stamps. Turns out I'm the reason she can afford all this stuff. At least it goes to benefit her kids. I'd hate for them to starve just because she's too irresponsible to have money.

Person 1: *(Holding a \$20)* And can I get a couple rolls of quarters?

Troy VO: Nice. My tax dollars at work, enabling her gambling habit. Somehow I do not think this is what the founding fathers had in mind.

Clerk: Have a nice day. *(Person 1 exits and Person 2 begins to unload her groceries)* And how are you this fine day?

Person 2: Fine.

Clerk: Good. *(Ringing groceries.)*

Troy VO: Oh, now look at this, wine, shrimp, capers...apricot jam. We got a uppity rich person in line. Perrier, biscotti, salad mix, baguette... Hey! She's got like 16 items in there! Isn't that just like a rich person...thinking they're above the rules. Ten items or less doesn't apply to me...I'm simply too important! I can do whatever I want whenever I want. A-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-haaaa.'

Clerk: Okay, that's \$98.95.

Person 2: How much did you charge me for the jam?

Clerk: \$2.79, ma'am

Person 2: It was marked on the shelf at \$2.69.

Troy VO: Oh great. A *cheap*, rich person.

Clerk: I can check on it for you. *(He picks up phone.)*

*To read the rest of this script and perform it, download the full version at
SkitGuys.com!*

ENDING:

Clerk: Hey, I know you.

Troy: Really.

Clerk: Yeah. You sit a few rows in front of me at church. I see you there every week.

Troy: Great. I'll have to look for you this Sunday.

Clerk: I'll be there. *(Grabbing bottle from cart)* So is this it for you then?

Troy: Yeah, just the...rum.

Clerk: That's \$12.95.

Troy: My wife is making a rum cake and needed some rum...for the cake.

Clerk: Here's your change. And I'll just put this in a paper bag for you.

Troy: That won't be necessary.

Clerk: *(Handing him a small paper bag)* Here you go.

Troy: Maybe I'll bring you a piece...this Sunday at church, okay. We'll bring you a piece on Sunday!

Clerk: Okay, see you Sunday. (*Troy exits and Clerk watches him go.*)

Clerk VO: If you wake up from your drunken stupor in time. (*Pretends to be drunk, laughs.*)

Lights out. The end.