IN NEED OF SPIRIT HALLOWEEN

"Getting the Word Out"

by Zoe Kauffman EXT. SPIRIT HALLOWEEN STORE - DAY

A couple cars are parked in the huge parking lot. HARRY, the manager, 34 with balding hair, very energetic, stands by the door to greet them.

HARRY (O.S.)

Yeah, I always say to make the customer feel welcome.

Harry, greets the customers a little too enthusiastically causing them to leave.

HARRY (O.S.)

I believe that I am the most welcoming person I know. That's why I am always the first person they see.

HARRY'S TALKING HEAD

HARRY

I hate to put other people down, but the rest of this team just, doesn't seem to try. I mean, they are just the worst. Always scaring the customers away, or playing their silly little pranks on each other. Come on, this is work, not a playground.

INT. SPIRIT HALLOWEEN STORE - FRONT REGISTER - DAY

SHANE, 17 and very angsty, wears a black hoodie and black headphones around his neck. He's busy playing a game on his phone when a CUSTOMER walks to the register.

CUSTOMER

Hello, how are you?

Shane nods and continues to play on his phone.

CUSTOMER

Uh, hello? Do I checkout here?

Shane looks up and points to the "Checkout" sign, then continues playing on his phone.

CUSTOMER

Okay, so then can I checkout?

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SHANE

Son of a bitch lady, can't you see I'm busy, give me a minute.

CUSTOMER

Excuse me? Why aren't you doing your job? Where is your manager?

Shane rolls his eyes and then picks up the phone to the store speaker.

SHANE

(over the speaker)

Harry your ass is needed at the front.

The Customer crosses her arms while Shane goes back to his phone. Harry walks to the register.

CUSTOMER

Oh, are you the manager?

HARRY

Yes ma'am, that would be me? First, I just want to welcome you to the very spooky Spirit Halloween. I bet you won't find service this nice at another.

CUSTOMER

Really? You call this NICE service? I could find better service talking to a rat.

HARRY

(hurt)

A rat?

HARRY'S TALKING HEAD

HARRY

I know that Shane tries his best, but he is just awful at this job. I only hired him because his mom is a looker, now I mean a real looker. She stops by to pick him up after his shift, and I just stare.

SHANE'S TALKING HEAD

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SHANE

That's not my mom, that's just some hooker that comes by the store all the time.

INT. SPIRIT HALLOWEEN STORE - STORAGE SPACE - DAY

RILEY, 23, goodie two shoes, holds a clip board taking notes.

RILEY'S TALKING HEAD

RILEY

I know Harry means well, but most of the time he scares the customers away, then blames everything on Shane.

INT. SPIRIT HALLOWEEN STORE - FRONT REGISTER - DAY

Harry continues to talk with the customer.

HARRY

You want to say our service is like a rat! How about you're the reason it's like a rat, you bitch! Don't ever come here again!

The Customer storms out.

HARRY

Woah, almost lost my cool there Shane. And you really shouldn't call a lady a bitch, now get to work.

Riley watches from the side and shakes her head.

RILEY'S TALKING HEAD

RILEY

What's my role at this place? Well if you must know, I'm supposed to take inventory. However, because Halloween is like forever away, we almost don't need to order anything. So, I've been doing my own thing by taking notes on people's performances and giving them feedback on how to be better with the customers.

INT. SPIRIT HALLOWEEN STORE - FRONT REGISTER - DAY

Riley walks up to Shane and Harry with her clipboard. Shane rolls his eyes as she walks over.

RILEY

Hey guys, how are you? I noticed that little situation you had there and wanted to give you some tips.

SHANE

Riley, this isn't even your job. I already have someone telling me how to do my job and I don't even listen to him.

HARRY

Yeah, he doesn't even listen to me Riley, so back off. Go do your actual job, sitting in the back where no one can see you.

RILEY

Yeah, ha ha, very funny. First of all, the customers actually like me when I talk to them, so there's that. And second, I don't have anything to do for inventory because it's the middle of summer.

HARRY

Well then, it sounds like we need to do some advertising.

Harry walks to the register and grabs the phone for the loud speaker.

HARRY

(over the speaker)
Everyone, report to the break
room. We need to have a meeting.

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