

GRACE SKIT: We get too wrapped up in ourselves and do not understand that we ALL need grace. God's "grace coupon" is available to us all!

CHARACTERS: Waiter; lady customer (high class shopper with MANY shopping bags); male customer (Humble, homeless, rescue mission type)

SET:

A restaurant welcome area (music stand and stool?) in front of stage

Two separate, but close, small tables, each with a seat facing the audience - on stage

PROPS:

Waiter carries "menus" – which can also be script info until waiter takes menus back.

Waiter monologue to begin: Whew! What a day it has been!...but then it is always hectic on one of our coupon days. Normally, we are a very high class place with a nice, mellow pace that is open for breakfast and lunch. But on coupon day, everyone and their FATHER (or brother or sister or relative or friend) comes by. (Looks at watch and sighs) Only 5 minutes to closing time!.....(groans, then returns to his best behavior for the customer coming in)

Lady Customer: Table for one, please. (Waiter seats her. She puts all of her packages on down the side of the other table.)

Waiter: (As he leads her to her seat and gives her a menu) Welcome to Chez (you name it!). We serve breakfast and lunch (looks at his watch to gently hint that she is a late arrival) Here is our menu. (Male customer arrives at welcome station) I will be back to take your order.

Male customer doesn't speak but smiles at waiter and shows the waiter his coupon. Waiter pats him on the back, with familiarity.

Waiter: This way, please. (Seats him, gives him menu. The male customer makes the lady customer uncomfortable, so she moves all of her packages to the other side of her seat.) I will be back to take your order. (Turns to take order from Lady) What can I get for you?

Lady customer: I'll have that, and that, and that. (She points to places on the menu, hands menu to waiter and fusses with her bags.)

Waiter: (to male customer) What can I get for you? (male customer smiles, points to one thing on the menu, waiter takes the menu and walks off stage)

EVERYONE ON STAGE FREEZES. A SIGN ON PPT OR HELD UP BY AN ASSISTANT NEEDS TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT TIME PASSING OR AFTER MEAL, ETC.

Waiter: (to Lady as he lays down a bill) I hope you enjoyed your lunch.

Lady customer: (She hands the waiter her credit card and he walks to welcome area to process it.)

Waiter: (returns to hand credit card to lady) I'm sorry maam, but your credit limit has been reached.

Lady customer: Really! What else am I going to have to deal with today! My husband left me and took MY cat with him, after he discovered the stack of unpaid bills in the desk drawer. That was so stressful that I just had to go shopping and get my nails done. Wait a minute! You're not going to make me wash dishes with these nails! They just cost me a fortune!

Waiter: I'll give you a minute to figure out how you are going to pay for your lunch. (He moves to hand a bill to the male customer. The male customer smiles, hands him a stack of coupons and politely exits the way he came in. Waiter waves to him, then returns to lady customer.)

Lady customer: He didn't pay you! You are asking me to pay you when HE didn't pay you!

Waiter: Today is our coupon day. Do you have one of our coupons?

Lady customer: Why didn't you say so! I'm sure I do. (Opens her purse, digs for a coupon, and hands it to waiter.)

Waiter: Maam, this is a parking ticket, dated this morning.

Lady customer: (snatches it back and hunts some more) Here it is (handing it to waiter)

Waiter: Maam, this appears to be an application for a credit card.

Lady customer: I never was very good at keeping track of my coupons. Tell me, where does one get a coupon for this place?

Waiter: Why, didn't you see him when you came in? The gentleman who was sitting right over there has been handing them out all morning.

Lady customer: (Looking sheepishly at her nails and her bags....) Do you suppose he is still out there?

Waiter: No, it is past our closing time. But he did give me all the coupons he had left, just in case anyone asked. Would you like one of them?

Lady customer: (finally some humility) Oh yes! PLEASE!