

CASHLESS

By

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Setting is a video store counter. A cashier is behind the counter serving customers. Two customers hand the cashier their card. She taps it and hands it back with a receipt. A third customer hands her cash. She automatically taps it on the machine. When it doesn't work she tries again, then she realizes she's been handed cash. She is not sure what to do.

CASHIER

I'm sorry, you don't happen to have your card, do you?

CUSTOMER

Ah, no I left it at home.

CASHIER

You....left it at home?

CUSTOMER

Yes, I had plenty of cash on me so I didn't think I would need it.

CASHIER

Oh, well that was rather thoughtless, wasn't it?

CUSTOMER

Sorry?

CASHIER

Well, what if you needed it for something, you know like buying a DVD.

CUSTOMER

But I am buying a DVD, with cash.

CASHIER

Yes, ah, excuse me one moment.

She speaks into a microphone.

CASHIER

Could I get assistance to the counter please. Assistance to the counter. (to customer)
Won't be a moment.

A store assistant enters.

What's up?
STORE ASS

This customer gave me this.
CASHIER

Shows Shop ass money.

Oh. I see. Yes that is a problem.
STORE ASS

What do I do?
CASHIER

It's alright, were prepared for this. Remember the workshops.
SHOP ASS

Right, we had to.....(looking for the answer).
CASHIER

Tell them the register is broken.
STORE ASS

Tell them the register is broken, that's right. (to customer) I'm sorry, the register is broken you'll have to come back later, WITH A CARD.
CASHIER

Broken? It doesn't look broken to me.
CUSTOMER

And you're an expert on this sort of thing are you?
CASHIER

Actually I am. I'm an electronics engineer. That register was working fine with all the other customers.
CUSTOMER

That's because they had a CARD.
CASHIER

Makes no difference, the register still works regardless.
CUSTOMER

(to sales ass) What do I do?
CASHIER

STORE ASS

I'll handle this. (to customer) Now look here sir, you can't come in here flashing cash all over the place and expect to be served.

CUSTOMER

Yes I can. Isn't that the point?

STORE ASS

Well...uh... One moment please.

CASHIER

What do we do?

STORE ASS

Give me a second. I'll call the manager.

The store assistant take out his phone & hits a button.

STORE ASS

Hello, Sir. Uh..sorry to disturb you, It's (insert name here) from Sound & Vision. Yes, We have a slight problem, sir. A customer came in with cash. Tell security to kick him out? Isn't that a bit extreme? Yes, I understand, desperate measures for desperate circumstances. Thank you sir, sorry to bother you.

CASHIER

What did he say?

STORE ASS

If all else fails kick him out.

CUSTOMER

What was that all about?

STORE ASS

Just consulting with management, sir, nothing to worry.

CUSTOMER

I don't understand all the fuss. I have the money, I just want to pay and be on my way.

STORE ASS

Yes, well it's not as simple as that...

CUSTOMER

Not as simple! This is ridiculous. Here is the the DVD, Here is the cash, Put the cash in the till log the payment and give me a receipt. It can't get any simpler than that.

CASHIER

Are you telling me how to do my job?

CUSTOMER

Well, clearly the basics of it seem to have eluded you.

CASHIER

So, you're saying I'm stupid?

CUSTOMER

I...wouldn't put it like that.

CASHIER

How would you put it then?

CUSTOMER

(trying to find the words) Incapable of handling something outside your area of expertise.

CASHIER

You think I'm an idiot. (to Store Assistant) Did you hear that, he called me an idiot.

CUSTOMER

I didn't say that.

CASHIER

Are you going to stand there and let him talk to me like that?

STORE ASS

This has gone far enough. I think you should leave.

CUSTOMER

No! I want this DVD.

STORE ASS

If you don't leave I'm going to call security.

CUSTOMER

This is absurd, I'm not leaving without this DVD.

STORE ASS

It's just a DVD, you can buy it somewhere else.

CUSTOMER

I don't have time for that.

STORE ASS

If it's that important you can make the time.

CASHIER

I don't understand why a grown man would want to watch Titanic anyway.

CUSTOMER

My wife asked me to get it.

CASHIER

Your wife. Really" (she doesn't believe him).

STORE ASS

And you do everything your wife tells you, do you? (slight laugh)

The cashier gives the store assistant a death stare.
The Store assistant shuffles uncomfortably.

CUSTOMER

Alright, it's for me. So what?

CASHIER

I bet you don't even have a wife, do you?

CUSTOMER

Well, no. Actually I have a toothless cat, but that's beside the point.

CASHIER

Let me spare you three hours of grief, The boat sinks, she survives and the guy drowns, end of story.

CUSTOMER

Well thanks a lot.

CASHIER

You're welcome. Now you don't need the DVD. Goodbye.

CUSTOMER

No! I want this DVD. I want to see the whole movie from start to finish.

CASHIER

Then come back with a card.

CUSTOMER

I refuse to go home to get a card just because you can't do your job.

CASHIER

He's calling me stupid again. This is harassment, I'm not gong to stand here and take this.

STORE ASS

Bullying is an offense. If you don't leave now I'm calling the police.

CUSTOMER

I'm not bullying anyone.

CASHIER

You called me an idiot four times.

CUSTOMER

It was only three.