

ANSWER THE QUESTION

Written by

ROBERT LUXFORD

Copyright © September 2023 Robert Luxford and Off the Wall Play Publishers

<https://offthewallplays.com>

This script is provided for reading purposes only. Professionals and amateurs are hereby advised that it is subject to royalty. It is fully protected under the laws of the United States of America, the British Empire, including the Dominion of Canada, and all other countries of the Copyright Union. All rights, including but not limited to professional, amateur, film, radio, and all other media (including use on the worldwide web) and the rights of translation into foreign languages are strictly reserved; and any unauthorized use of the material may subject the user to any and all applicable civil and criminal penalties. No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher or author, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law. Although every precaution has been taken to verify the accuracy of the information contained herein, the author and publisher assume no responsibility for any errors or omissions. No liability is assumed for damages that may result from the use of information contained within. For any information about royalties or to apply for a performance license please click the following link:

<https://offthewallplays.com/royalties-and-licensing-of-plays-sold-by-off-the-wall-plays/>

Open on a grocery store. Standing behind the counter is a YOUNG MAN (GREG), attending to his duties when a YOUNG WOMAN,(TAMMY) enters.

GREG

Good morning.

TAMMY

Hi, can of lemonade thanks?

GREG

Sure, did you check in with your QR code?

TAMMY

Done?

GREG

Vaccination,please.

TAMMY shows her phone screen.

GREG

No worries. Just a couple of questions. Name?

TAMMY

What?

GREG

Name please.

TAMMY

Tammy Walters.

GREG

Address?

TAMMY

Uh, 44 Gregory Street Penshurst.

GREG

Postcode?

TAMMY

2222.

GREG

Date of birth?

TAMMY

Why do you need my date of birth?

GREG

Security and safety check. We do it with all the customers now.

TAMMY

But I just want a can of lemonade.

GREG

Regardless of what you buy we have to run a check.

TAMMY

Why?

GREG

Why? Because it's important to check everyone's status. You could be contagious or a threat to national security.

TAMMY

But I just want a can of drink.

GREG

It's not the purchase it's the intent.

TAMMY

Intent? I'm going to drink it.

GREG

That's what you say you're going to do with it.

TAMMY

What else am I going to do with it?

GREG

You tell me.

TAMMY

This is stupid.

GREG

I have to ask these questions. Company policy.

TAMMY

Company policy? It's a soft drink.

GREG

It's not that simple.

TAMMY

Yes it is. I give you money you give me the drink, it doesn't get any simpler then that.

GREG

I'm afraid it isn't. Do you have a photo I.D?

TAMMY

Yes.

GREG

May I see it please?

TAMMY

No.

GREG

You're making this very difficult.

TAMMY

Just give me the damn drink.

GREG

Just show me the I.D.

TAMMY

And what if I don't?

GREG

I will have to resort to sterner measures.

TAMMY

What? Are you gonna torture me?

GREG

That won't be necessary. Yet.

TAMMY

Screw this.

Tammy goes to leave.

GREG

Sorry, The door's been locked.

TAMMY

What!

GREG

Security measure. No-one in or out until all security and medical protocols are met.

TAMMY

Are you insane?

GREG

Rules.

TAMMY

Let me out.

GREG

Can't do that.

TAMMY

OPEN THE GODDAMN DOOR!

GREG

Once the lock-down procedure begins there's nothing I can do.

TAMMY

Open the door or I will smash it open.

GREG

Violent tenancies I see. Well, that's a cause for concern.

TAMMY

I'm serious.

GREG

You can try but it's solid timber and there are four locks.

TAMMY

You can't do this, it's kidnapping.

GREG

No, it's government policy.

TAMMY

Screw government policy, I have rights.

GREG

(slight laugh) Do you honestly believe that?

TAMMY

Why are you doing this? I just want a drink.

GREG

And all you had to do was answer some questions.

TAMMY

No, I don't. I am not a terrorist or contagious or any kind of threat to national security.

GREG

But I don't know that. Just tell me who you are.

TAMMY

It's none of your business.

GREG

The safety of the community is everyone's business.

TAMMY

And how exactly am I going to hurt someone with a can of lemonade?

GREG

Well, for all I know you could use it as part of a bomb.

TAMMY

A BOMB! Do I look like McGyver to you?