

SCRIPT TITLE

Written by

Name of First Writer

Based on, If Any

Address
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"Parallels"
A Day in the Life of a Parallel Universe

INT. A LARGE WAREHOUSE CONSTRUCTION STORE, ALONG THE LINES OF LOWE'S OR HOME DEPOT, BUT ONE THAT ISN'T IDENTIFIABLE. THINGS SEEM PERFECTLY NORMAL.

SUPER:

CONSTRUCTION DEPOT
OUTSKIRTS OF SEA HAVEN, CASCADIA
12:37PM - TWO WEEKS AGO

Into the store an extremely well dressed man in a top hat with a cane walks into the store, but something is off about him. His face isn't quite right somehow. Nobody seems to notice him. Behind him, at some distance, enters a man on a store push cart with an amplifier and a microphone. It is TOM WAITS. He begins singing his song *Step Right Up*.

TOM WAITS
Step right up. Step right up. Step
right up.

At some distance behind TOM WAITS, a WOMAN BASS PLAYER enters on another push cart enters the store. She is playing a stand-up bass along with TOM.

TOM WAITS (CONT'D)
Everyone's a winner. Bargains
galore.

Behind the WOMAN BASS PLAYER enters another push cart with a DRUMMER playing the drums. A SAXAPHONIST saunters in playing at some distance behind the DRUMMER.

TOM WAITS (CONT'D)
That's right you too can be the
proud owner of...

The four of them circle each other near the entrance to the store as the MAN IN THE TOP HAT watches.

TOM WAITS (CONT'D)
The quality goes in before that
name goes on...

A CROWD has started to gather around the three musicians, gawking and commenting in amazement. Still, nobody seems to notice the MAN IN THE TOP HAT.

TOM WAITS (CONT'D)

One tenth of a dollar, one tenth of
a dollar, we got service after the
sale...

A WOMAN in the audience starts dancing to the music. It's not entirely of her own volition, but she's not upset about it and seems to be enjoying it. Others start to join her.

TOM WAITS (CONT'D)

Somethin' for the little lady,
somethin' for the little lady,
somethin' for the little lady...

Soon the whole group is dancing around with musicians as the MAN IN THE TOP HAT watches. As TOM WAITS continues to sing, some in the group throw off their own purchases from their carts. The musicians start to lead a procession through the store. The group of dancing people, now highly choreographed, follow the musicians grabbing saws, hammers, and various tools and loading them onto the now empty carts. As the group continues through the store they encounter people who are not a part of the dancing group. One of the dancers encounters a nail gun and becomes THE NAIL GUNNER. A STAFF MEMBER attempts to block the path of the musicians. The NAIL GUNNER appears at the head of the group and shoots the STAFF MEMBER in the head with the nail gun. The STAFF MEMBER collapses to the ground and a bystander screams. The dancers and musicians take no heed of this new phase and simply move around the body of the fallen staff.

TOM WAITS (CONT'D)

Well it takes care of business,
never needs winding, never needs
winding, never needs winding...

More resistance to the DANCERS begins forming in the store as more STAFF come to stop them. The NAIL GUNNER eliminates each threat as it appears. Finally, the NAIL GUNNER just starts shooting randomly into the store in glee. Paint cans empty their contents onto the floor, compressed cans explode, and more carnage is seen. The MAN IN THE TOP HAT follows behind merely watching. The carts are now full of items and the group begins making its way back toward the entrance to the store.

TOM WAITS (CONT'D)

Why put up with painful corns any
longer, it's a redeemable coupon,
no obligation, no salesman will
visit your home...

A FEMALE POLICE OFFICER has entered the store and has drawn a weapon, which she holds at the group.

They pause for a moment, the music stops momentarily. TOM WAITS walks to the front of the group.

POLICE
Stop right there!

TOM WAITS walks up to her.

TOM WAITS
(whispering)
We got a jackpot
Jackpot
Jackpot

POLICE
You are all under arrest!

TOM WAITS
Prizes!
Prizes!
Prizes!

The POLICE OFFICER turns the gun on herself.

TOM WAITS (CONT'D)
All work guaranteed!

The POLICE OFFICER shoots herself in the head and collapses. TOM WAITS grabs the gun and throws it to the NAIL GUNNER. The musicians start back up and the group continues out the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. OF THE WAREHOUSE

A bus screeches to a halt in front of the entrance to the store and the SAXOPHONIST gets on the bus, still playing. The DANCERS unload the carts and load everything onto the bus and afterwards join the SAXOPHONIST on the bus.

TOM WAITS
How do we do it
How do we do it
How do we do it
Step right up

Once everything is on the bus the NAIL GUNNER turns to the DRUMMER and shoots him in the head. The DRUMMER collapses over his drums. The NAIL GUNNER shoots the BASS PLAYER.

TOM WAITS (CONT'D)
The large print giveth and the
small print taketh away.

The NAIL GUNNER is about to shoot TOM WAITS, but MAN IN THE TOP HAT waves her off. The NAIL GUNNER then shoots herself instead. The SAXOPHONIST is still playing, really wailing. The MAN IN THE TOP HAT gets onboard the bus and the bus pulls away.

CUT TO BLACK.