

A Monologue

From The Customer Is Always Wrong

A one act play.

To read 90% of the play, free of charge, go to

Playscripts.com

THE CUSTOMER IS ALWAYS WRONG

HEIDI , 17

NEVER, 18

A woman in a power suit, NEVE, is sitting at a table, impatiently waiting. Heidi walks across stage with a tray full of drinks.

NEVE

Excuse me! Excuse me!

HEIDI

Sorry, I'll be right with you -

NEVE

When! When will you be right with me! Because I have been sitting here for 2 minutes and haven't seen a soul.

HEIDI

Well two minutes isn't that long.

NEVE

Oh it isn't. Really?!

HEIDI

Not really, but I'll -

NEVE

Well. I think I should talk to your manager.

HEIDI

No! Please, I'm sorry, and I really need this job and I uh.... uh... just let me drop these drinks off and I'll be right with you.

Heidi sets her tray of drinks down.

HEIDI

Okay, what can I get you?

Neve suddenly gets a call, touches her blue tooth. Motions for Heidi to wait.

NEVE

Yes! This is Neve. Oh my gosh I've been dying to see you. How are you? Uh huh. Uh huh. Oh only in the spring. Right. Right, with lavender. Ha ha! Or without who cares! Ha ha! Oh I wish I was there now, I'm slammed today, 5 back to back meetings so I had to run to this little pub thing near the office. McGrady's, have you been there? Don't. It has horrible lighting and the service... I mean I've been here for what feels like hours, waiting for anyone to notice me and I get this trainee to take my orders. You know the kind, eager and clumsy, and not very bright, and she's got this awful chipmunk face. You know what I mean when I say that? Because chipmunks are actually quiet cute, but her's is like a chipmunk who's face has been pinched. Or like... a chipmunk but with the face of a raccoon. A tired raccoon, yes. Yes! Exactly. Ha ha... Well, I better order, who knows how long it will take for the food to actually arrive. Pray for me! Ha ha! Bye.

Neve touches her ear and looks at Heidi, who is using all her will power not to slap Neve.

NEVE

Well? Do you have any specials?

HEIDI

Sorry, I was just... waiting for you to be done with your call.

NEVE

I touched my ear.

HEIDI

Right. You did. So... okay. Well, welcome to McGrady's. We have a couple of specials if you'd like to hear them.

NEVE

Look, chippy, I'm sure your deep-fried meets and potato cheese sides are a hit with your "regulars" but I have a lot of dietary restrictions so I'll need to order off the menu.. Shouldn't be a problem, right?

HEIDI

Sure.

NEVE

So... it appears you serve salads correct? Great. I'll have a salad with no lettuce, carrots, minced, on the side. Avocado, one quarter only. And beans. Two quarter cup servings. Shaved. And also on the side. Thank you.

HEIDI

Okay... well this sort of like the garden salad, so I guess I'll put it in as that. Um, so I'm assuming you don't want any cheese?

NEVE

Yes, your assumption that I would like to not gain 5 pounds directly into the area of my ass is correct.

HEIDI

And no dressing.

NEVE

If I didn't want Cheese, why the hell would I want dressing? You know what dressing is. It's pure fat. It's liquid fat!

HEIDI

I'm sorry, I have to ask.

NEVE

A wedge of lemon will be fine.

HEIDI

Okay, um... and just so you know, since you've substituted quite a few items, I'll have to charge you an extra 2 dollars is that okay?

NEVE

(mocking tone)

Oh no! Two dollars! Where am I going to find two dollars in my 400 dollar purse? I guess I'll just have to put on my 2,000 dollar Blazer and go to the bank to ask for a loan so that I can pay for my salad additions.

HEIDI

Look I was just trying to be helpful.

NEVE

You're not being helpful you're slowing me down! I have to be back at the office in 18 minutes! Use your eyes and look at my manicure, and make the deduction that clearly I don't care if you charge me 2 extra dollars!

HEIDI

Great, well, your food will be right out.

Neve touches her ear.

NEVE

Yes, one more thing.

HEIDI

Yes?

NEVE

No, I'm talking to my assistant.

HEIDI

Oh. Sorry, I'll.

NEVE

No you wait too. There's one more thing I need from you.

HEIDI

Okay, what -

Never holds up her finger, indicating "be quiet now."
Heidi bites her tongue so hard it might bleed.

NEVE

Sorry, I was talking to my server. I'm at McGrady's..... Don't. Ever. It's dreadful. It smells of sweat and cheap beer and the staff is incompetent. Anyway, Joffrey, I need you to cancel my 4 o'clock this morning, I have to fire Donny in accounting..... yes today..... yes on his birthday. Yes. Yes. Yes. Bye!

She touches her ear.

HEIDI

Yes?

NEVE

Don't... yes me. I was just on the phone. You should wait til I'm off the phone.

HEIDI

But last time you said I didn't answer you quickly enough. And you... you touched your ear!

NEVE

My God Chipmunk! How hard is it to carry food and take orders and not interrupt people while they're on the phone! Is it really that hard? Is it? Is there something I'm missing?! Why is this so hard for you Chipmunk? Hm? Why? Why!?

HEIDI

Because your an awful person! Maybe the worst person I've ever talked to! And I have a name! Heidi! And It's not chipmunk.

Heidi takes a glass of water and throws it in Neve's face.

Neve is shocked. Heidi is shocked.

After a few awkward beats, Heidi takes out a napkin, gives it to Neve. Neve starts to pat down her face.

NEVE

So would you like to see my manager now?

HEIDI

Yes, I think I would.

Lights out.