

- 1 shouldn't have called Quinn Lassie. I guess I'll go
2 apologize.
3 GINGER: That's a good idea. I think the best thing you can
4 do is stop listening to other people joking and making
5 fun of people and remind them how it might feel to be on
6 the receiving end of that kind of "joke."
7 CRYSTAL: Good point. Come with me?
8 GINGER: Sure. *(They exit.)*

7. Out of the Line of Vision

Topic: A play concerning judgments based on appearance.

Cast:

CHRIS: tries to be open-minded and fair

TAYLOR: judgmental and easily frightened by the unknown

DIRTY MAN: poorly dressed, dirty, and looks homeless

FANCY MAN: the opposite of Dirty Man — well-dressed, etc.

- 1 *(Scene works with CHRIS and TAYLOR walking across the*
2 *stage.)*
3 CHRIS: *(Excited)* I can't wait to see this play. It's supposed
4 to be really good.
5 TAYLOR: *(Nervously looking around)* Yeah, but I hate being
6 downtown. It's so gross.
7 CHRIS: Well, at least the light rail let us off like one block
8 from the theatre. Let's just walk fast.
9 DIRTY MAN: *(Approaches BOYS cautiously, hat in hand.)*
10 'Scuse me, kids. Can you spare a quarter?
11 TAYLOR: *(Frightened and disgusted, grabs CHRIS's arm.)* Ew,
12 Chris, don't look at him.
13 CHRIS: *(To TAYLOR, confused)* Huh?
14 TAYLOR: That guy. He's dirty. He's probably homeless. Just
15 ignore him. They can be really nasty. Let's walk faster.
16 DIRTY MAN: *(Kindly, not disturbed by the rejection)* You two
17 kids have a blessed day now. *(He walks Off-Stage.)*
18 CHRIS: Did you hear that? He said "blessed." Now I feel bad
19 that we ignored him.
20 TAYLOR: Just because he said "blessed" doesn't mean he's
21 religious or anything. He probably thinks that makes
22 people feel more sorry for him.

1 **FANCY MAN:** (*Enters from opposite entrance from where DIRTY*
 2 *MAN exited. Appears sincere and a little too friendly.*) Hello,
 3 children. Can you give me directions to the Rigley
 4 Theatre?
 5 **TAYLOR:** Oh, sure. I think if you go up to that traffic light
 6 and turn right, it's right on that block.
 7 **FANCY MAN:** Gee, I don't think I can find it on my own.
 8 Would you mind walking with me?
 9 **TAYLOR:** (*Kindly, without hesitation*) Sure. It's not too far out
 10 of our way.
 11 **CHRIS:** (*Pulls on TAYLOR's sleeve, speaks in a stage whisper*)
 12 Taylor! You shouldn't go with a stranger. We don't know
 13 him!
 14 **TAYLOR:** Oh, ease up, Chris. Look how nicely he's dressed.
 15 He's OK. We really should be polite to people.
 16 **CHRIS:** Like you were to that homeless guy?
 17 **TAYLOR:** That's different. We're not supposed to be nice to
 18 gross people, only clean people.
 19 **CHRIS:** Where did you get that idea? Be kind to well-dressed
 20 people and ridicule and ignore those dirty people.
 21 **TAYLOR:** Don't be sarcastic. This guy is perfectly fine and
 22 you're just being bullheaded.
 23 **FANCY MAN:** You know, (*Mimes getting into a car*) I hurt my
 24 foot last week and I really can't walk very far. Would you
 25 mind very much getting in my car and helping me find
 26 that bank?
 27 **CHRIS:** (*Now highly suspicious*) I thought you said you
 28 wanted Rigley Theatre?
 29 **FANCY MAN:** Oh, uh, right. That's where I'm going. I'm so
 30 absentminded.
 31 **TAYLOR:** (*Also finally understanding the possible danger*) Uh, I
 32 don't think we should get into your car.
 33 **FANCY MAN:** (*Trying to be persuasive, beginning to sound odd*)
 34 Oh, come on. It's only a block or two, like you said.
 35 You'd really be helping me. I'm supposed to meet my

1 grandmother and I don't want to be late.
 2 **TAYLOR:** (*Wanting to believe*) Oh, if your grandmother is
 3 there, I'm sure it's OK.
 4 **CHRIS:** Taylor! (*To FANCY MAN*) Uh, sorry Mister, but we've
 5 got to get going. We can't go with you.
 6 **FANCY MAN:** (*Not nice at all now. Firm and angry*) Come on,
 7 now, don't be difficult. You said you would help.
 8 **CHRIS:** We've really got to get going.
 9 **FANCY MAN:** (*Very angry and ominous*) Get into the car.
 10 Now.
 11 **DIRTY MAN:** (*Running on from Off-Stage*) Hey, kids, I was
 12 wondering where you were. You really shouldn't have run
 13 off like that. I've been looking for you.
 14 **TAYLOR:** (*Confused but beginning to understand*) Oh ... uh ...
 15 sorry, uh ... Uncle Bob. We were just trying to give this
 16 man some directions.
 17 **DIRTY MAN:** (*To FANCY MAN*) Sorry, fella, but I've got to get
 18 these kids back home before their mom sends a search
 19 committee out for me. You ready, kids?
 20 **CHRIS:** Oh, sure. (*To TAYLOR, forcefully*) Let's go. (*FANCY*
 21 *MAN drives off angry. ALL watch him go.*)
 22 **TAYLOR:** (*To DIRTY MAN*) Thank you, Mister. He was weird.
 23 I think he was —
 24 **DIRTY MAN:** No problem. I thought he looked like he was
 25 looking for trouble. I'm glad you're OK. You know, you
 26 should never get into a car with a stranger. I'm sure your
 27 mother told you that.
 28 **CHRIS:** Uh, yes, of course. It's just that he looked so ...
 29 **TAYLOR:** Nice.
 30 **DIRTY MAN:** Well, looks can be deceiving, can't they? (*Gives*
 31 *them a minute to consider.*)
 32 **TAYLOR:** (*Looking at DIRTY MAN, pauses, and recognizes his*
 33 *mistake.*) Yes, you're absolutely right. Thanks so much
 34 for coming to our rescue. (*Gives him some change.*)
 35 **DIRTY MAN:** Don't mention it. God bless you two. You'd

1 better get going. Be careful now.
2 CHRIS: We will. Thank you. Really, thanks so much. And I'm
3 sorry for —
4 DIRTY MAN: Don't mention it. Really, don't mention it. Bye.
5 *(He leaves.)*
6 TAYLOR: Well, we completely misjudged those two men,
7 didn't we?
8 CHRIS: Yeah, and all because of what they looked like. Who
9 would have thought?
10 TAYLOR: I guess that shows that you really can't judge
11 people by how they look. Are we going to make our show
12 on time?
13 CHRIS: Oh, yeah, but we'd better hurry. I can't wait to see
14 Julie Quinn.
15 TAYLOR: Oh? Have you seen her act before?
16 CHRIS: No, but she's gorgeous. If she was a dinosaur, she'd
17 be a babe-a-saurus.
18 TAYLOR: So much for your lesson on judging books by their
19 cover.
20 CHRIS: Oh, was this play a book first?
21 TAYLOR: Let's go. I think you need to get out of the sun.

8. The Project

Topic: Group of students trying to get motivated to put together a project

Cast:

COURTNEY: a go-getter, trying to work correctly and up against lazy classmates

BEN: would rather be anywhere but here; he's lazy, sarcastic, and bored

ILAN: the class brainiac and extremely well-spoken

KIM: nice, fun-loving, and loves to eat

1 *(ALL sitting around in various positions. COURTNEY has*
2 *paper and pencil, trying to take notes. BEN is trying to sleep.*
3 *ILAN is sitting upright, hyper-focused. KIM is playing with her*
4 *hair, her mind obviously elsewhere.)*
5 **COURTNEY:** *(Obviously been working at this for a while)* If we
6 don't start on this, we're never gonna finish.
7 **BEN:** *(Tossing a ball in the air and catching it)* I hate these
8 stupid projects. Why do we have to do this stuff
9 anyway?
10 **ILAN:** *(Softly, but assuredly and clearly)* To enhance our
11 learning and increase our appreciation for the world
12 around us.
13 **KIM:** You sound like a walking encyclopedia, Ilan.
14 **ILAN:** Well, I think it's an interesting and engaging
15 opportunity.
16 **BEN:** Of course you do. You're like a miniature teacher.
17 **COURTNEY:** *(Clapping hands)* People! People! No bickering!
18 We're gonna have to *start* if we ever want to *finish*.
19 **KIM:** *(Shifts weight, looks at her nails.)* Isn't it time to take a
20 break? I think I need a snack.
21 **COURTNEY:** We just started! No breaks. Let's at least get
22 started.