

**BLACK FRIDAY SALE**

By Molly Burke

Time

Black Friday, 2015

Place

Medium's office

DON	30, medium.
CAT LADY	40, loves cats!
DONNA	25, normal.
JENNA	20, basic.
MIRANDA	24, disappointing individual, but optimistic.
USTANE	30, bitter towards her mother.
MARTHA	24, easily offended.
GRANDMOTHER	80, Miranda's grandmother. disappointed in her.
HELEN	90, senile.
WOMAN	30, normal.
MOM	80, stubborn.
GRETCHEN	20, basic.
JOHN	30, idiot.
MARIO	25, normal.
HAROLD	25, normal.
YUSEF	30, suspicious of the "medium."
OLD GUY	90, senile.
MAN	30, he's just there.
JESUS	whatever you think is right.
BENJI	25, medium.
JEFFREY	80, mischievous.

(On the stage is nothing but two chairs. DON the medium sits in the chair on the right. CAT LADY sits in the chair on the left.)

DON

As I say to all of my clients, your energy will bring your dead loved ones to you.

(Five cats come on stage.)

CAT LADY

Oh, are they here? I can sense them!

DON

I'm seeing... about... five cats.

CAT LADY

Oh, what are they doing? Tell me!

DON

Okay... one is... rolling around.

CAT LADY

Jeremiah!

DON

The other four are... staring at me.

CAT LADY

They're hungry! Does Jesus not feed them?

DON

Okay, next.

(CAT LADY exits. JOHN enters.)

JOHN

Hi, it's really nice to meet you!

DON

Hello, your energy will bring your dead loved ones to you.

JOHN

Okay...

(They wait ten seconds. DON whistles.)

DON

Who were you expecting to hear from today?

JOHN

(Shrugs) I don't know.

DON

Do you have any dead loved ones?

JOHN

I mean... none that I can think of.

DON

Why would you come here?

JOHN

Well, ten dollars for one minute? What a steal! I love black Friday!

DON

Okay. Get out.

JOHN

What?

DON

Get out!

(JOHN exits. MIRANDA enters.)

MIRANDA

Hi! It's so nice to-

DON

Your energy will bring your dead loved ones to you.

MIRANDA

Thanks, I was hoping to hear from my grandmother. We never got along and I've made some mistakes in my life, but I know she would forgive me if I could just speak to her.

GRANDMOTHER

(Offstage) You're a disappointment!

DON

What?

MIRANDA

Can you see her?

DON

Yeah...

GRANDMOTHER

(Walks with a cane on stage toward Miranda) My granddaughter!

DON

Hi, what would you like to say to Miranda?

GRANDMOTHER

What would I like to say? She married a man she knew for two hours and got divorced two months later! She's working as a receptionist at a paper company with no hint of a future. What a disappointment! I spoke with Jesus and he is disappointed in you!

DON

Aww... she says she forgives you.

MIRANDA

Oh, great, thanks, Grandma!

GRANDMOTHER

That's not what I said!

DON

Time's up. Next!

GRANDMOTHER

Evil!

(MIRANDA leaves. GRANDMOTHER follows. HAROLD enters.)

HAROLD

Hi, Don. It's so nice to-

DON

Your energy will bring your dead loved ones here.

HAROLD

Okay. I'm ready.

OLD GUY

(Enters with a walker.) Is that my grandson?

DON

I see someone... a grandfather?

OLD GUY

My grandson!

DON

Hello, sir. Anything you want to tell your grandson?

OLD GUY

My grandson... I remember the days at the lake when we would go fishing. Oh, I miss those days...

DON

He says you used to go fishing with him?

HAROLD

Um, no. That never happened.

DON

Oh... I don't think this is your grandson, sir.

OLD GUY

What?

DON

(Speaking loudly) This isn't your grandson, sir.

OLD GUY

Not again!

DON

Okay, next!

(HAROLD exits. DONNA enters.)

DONNA

Hello.

DON

Hello, your energy should bring your dead loved ones here.

DONNA

Thank you. You know, I knew a medium once...

(BENJI walks in.)

BENJI

Donna! It's Benji!

DON

I have Benji here for you.

DONNA

Ah, Benji!

BENJI

Listen, Don, I can reconnect you with your loved ones for just a few payments of \$19.99.

DON

I can already speak to my loved ones.

BENJI

I have to warn you, if you want to continue this conversation, I am going to have to start charging you.

DON

How?

BENJI

You don't understand, Don! Business is horrible up here!

DON

Next!

(BENJI and DONNA exit. USTANE enters.)

USTANE

Hello, Don. I'm here on very important business.

DON

Okay. Who would you like to hear from?

USTANE

My mother. She left without giving me her hot dish recipe.

DON

Oh, okay. Let's see if she shows up.

(MOM enters.)

MOM

Hello, Ustane.

DON

Hello, she is looking for your hot dish recipe.

MOM

Well, she can't have it!

DON

Well you don't have to be difficult.

MOM

It's my hot dish! Make your own goddamn hot dish!

USTANE

What is she saying?

DON

She'd rather not give it to you.

USTANE

That bitch! Give me your recipe, you piece of shit!

MOM

Never!

USTANE

Where is she? I'm gonna kill her!

DON

Okay. Nothing is going to be resolved here. Next!

(USTANE and MOM leave. MARIO enters.)

MARIO

Hello!

DON

Hello, just sit down and your energy should bring your loved ones here.

MARIO

Okay... I was hoping to hear from my grandmother. She said she had something very important to tell me before she died, but she died before I got to hear it.

(HELEN enters.)

DON

Okay... I think I see her now. What were you going to tell your grandson?



HELEN

Well, I was going to tell him: don't go down by the creek!

DON

She says to not go down by the creek. Does that mean anything to you?

MARIO

... no. I don't think I know what she's talking about.

HELEN

Don't go down by the creek, Mario!

DON

She's screaming at me to tell you not to go down by the creek.

MARIO

Okay... I won't go down by the creek.

HELEN

No matter how many spiders whisper into your ear in your sleep to meet them at the creek...

DON

Spiders?....

MARIO

Ah, is she talking about spiders again? Yeah, she used to talk to spiders...

DON

(Laughing) that's so weird...

MARIO

You talk to dead people.

(They stare at each other for ten seconds.)

DON

(Still staring, whispers) Next.

(MARIO and HELEN exit. JENNA enters.)

JENNA

Heyyyyyy!

DON

Hello.

JENNA

My best friend totally just died and I wanted to catch up!

GRETCHEN

Heyyyyy girrrr!!!!

DON

Oh, here she is.

JENNA

What up, girl??? You won't believe what Tyler said to Nico the other day.

GRETCHEN

LOL! I'm so over high school. You won't believe the drama that's going on up here. Even realer than the housewives. I mean, the history they have! I gotta tell you everything!

DON

Huh. She says she's too tired to talk.

GRETCHEN

Don't listen to him!!! I'm tryna talk to you!

DON

Next, please!

(JENNA and GRETCHEN exit. YUSEF enters.)

YUSEF

Hello.

DON

Hello. Your energy will bring your dead loved ones to you.

YUSEF

Sure.. sure...

DON

Okay... here come a couple of people.

(MAN and WOMAN enter.)

MAN

Yusef! Hey!

DON

I see a man and a woman.

YUSEF

Well, that's conveniently vague.

DON

Excuse me?

YUSEF

No, please give me more vague details and waste my money.

DON

Okay. You two, tell me something extremely specific about this guy.

WOMAN

He has a thing for Carrie Underwood. He hates table lamps. Um... when he was young, his friends attacked him with plastic lightsabers and he's been afraid of any kind of reference to Star Wars ever since.

DON

You have a thing for Carrie Underwood. You hate table lamps. When you were young, your friends attacked you with lightsabers and you've been afraid of Star Wars references ever since.

YUSEF

None of that is true.

WOMAN

All of that is true, Yusef!

DON

(In yoda's voice) Not true, it is?

YUSEF

(Suddenly scared and crying) it's not true! (Runs offstage.)

(MARTHA enters.)

MARTHA

Hello, Don!

DON

Your energy will bring your loved ones to you.

MARTHA

Okay!

(JEFFREY enters.)

JEFFREY

It's Martha! Hey, medium, tell her she looks like Kristen Stewart. She loves to hear that. You'll probably get a tip if you say that.

DON

Oh, okay, thanks... (To MARTHA) Hey, you know, you look a lot like Kristen Stewart.

MARTHA

Excuse me?

DON

Sorry, did I offend you?

MARTHA

Why do people keep saying that??? I look nothing like her! Am I going crazy? What is happening???

DON

I am so sorry...

MARTHA

I'm not paying for this! (Runs off.)

DON

What the hell, man?

JEFFREY

Ah, I missed that. (Exits.)

DON

Alright, six o' clock, time to go.

(JESUS enters.)

JESUS

You did good today, Don.

DON

Thanks, Jesus. Happy birthday, by the way.

JESUS

That's Christmas, you idiot.

(Blackout. End of play.)