EXT. LUNAR BLUE BUILDING-DAY

The 100-story corporate building is the tallest in the city. It’s a slow day, so there aren’t many people walking in and out of the building.

INT. LOBBY-DAY

The spacious lobby features a quiet atmosphere, granite floors, a front desk, and several pricey paintings.

A fifteen foot and beautifully decorated CHRISTMAS TREE sits next to a wall near the front doorway. Next to the tree is an expensive granite table.

SUPER: HARRY-SALES

Middle-aged Harry joyfully approaches the table and places a gold MENORAH on top of it.

SUPER: MOE-ACCOUNTING

The slack-jawed yankee MOE dashes over to the table and horrifyingly points at the menorah.

MOE
What do ya think you’re doin’?

HARRY
What?

MOE
You can’t put that there!

HARRY
What? Why not?

MOE
You know why! Management just put the “No Religion, No Problem” proposal into effect!

HARRY
Oh yeah, that’s where you can’t have things symbolizing religious holidays around the office, right?

MOE
Yes. So if you could please remove this thing then I could be on my way.

Harry shakes his head.
HARRY
If I take the menorah, then you have to take the tree.

Moe is horrified.

MOE
What?! You can’t take the tree! That thing-

HARRY
Menorah.

MOE
That menorah is a symbol for Chanukah. You have to remove it.

HARRY
And what about the tree? That has religious significance also.

Moe checks out the tree.

MOE
This? This is nothing. It’s just a Christmas tree, Harry.

Harry puts his hand to his ear.

HARRY
What was that, Moe?

MOE
It’s just a Christmas tree, Harry.

HARRY
A what tree?

MOE
Christmas tree!

HARRY
So it’s a Christmas tree but it holds no religious significance?

MOE
Oh c’mon, Harry! Everyone knows it’s just a symbol for giving!

SUPER: FESTUS-SALES

The conservatively dressed FESTUS arrives on the scene.
FESTUS
What’s goin’ on?

MOE
Okay, Festus. Which has religious significance: The tree or the menorah?

FESTUS
Well, the menorah, obviously.

MOE
Ha! Two on one, Harry! Now get rid of it!

SUPER: GREG-EXECUTIVE
The sharply dressed GREG passes by. Harry draws his attention over.

HARRY
Hey, Greg, doesn’t that tree have religious significance?

GREG
Of course. It’s brought out to celebrate the birth of Christ.

HARRY
Ha!

MOE
But what about that menorah!

GREG
That too. It symbolizes when Jews were suppressed in Egypt and they only had enough oil for one day but it burned for eight.

MOE
Ha! So, I guess they should get rid of it, right?

GREG
Well, if you get rid of the menorah then you gotta get rid of the tree.

MOE
But the tree symbolizes love!

GREG
Okay, then keep the tree, but then you’ll have to keep the menorah.
The beautiful CLAUDIA arrives on the scene.

MOE
Claudia, you’re smart, right?

CLAUDIA
Smart and beautiful.

MOE
Great! Doesn’t the menorah have religious significance?

CLAUDIA
Not really. I mean, it kinda does, but Chanukah isn’t a very major holiday on the Jewish Calendar.

MOE
Ha! Get rid of it, Harry!

HARRY
But what about the tree, Claudia?

CLAUDIA
You don’t need a tree for Christmas. It’s an add-on, like lettuce on a burger or even a bra.

Harry and Moe get into a shouting contest.

HARRY
See, Moe!

MOE
Oh, do you see?

HARRY
Yeah, I see that you’re wrong!

MOE
You don’t see anything, Harry! Now get rid of the menorah!

HARRY
Not until you get rid of the tree!

The African American WALTER arrives on the scene. He’s a big and intimidating guy.
WALTER
What’s going on?

HARRY
Moe wants to get rid of the menorah because he thinks it shows religious significance but refuses to believe that the Christmas tree is religious at all!

WALTER
Well, what’s everyone else doing here?

HARRY
Festus is in bed with Moe, so he agrees with everything he said. Greg is the smart guy who said that both are religious and Claudia said they’re not that big of a deal.

WALTER
Well, it’s not a big deal. I think the tree should stay, though.

MOE
Don’t you celebrate a different holiday?

Walter gets into Moe’s face.

WALTER
Why’s that, white boy? Because I’m black I gotta celebrate a different holiday?

Moe is terrified.

MOE
No, no! I just thought maybe you celebrated Kwanzaa or something.

SUPER: JEROME-ACCOUNTING

The African American JEROME proudly comes through and displays a kinara next to the menorah.

JEROME
Did someone say Kwanzaa?

Moe is horrified.
MOE
See! This! This has major religious significance! Kwanzaa is the holiday!

JEROME
Well, if you can put the tree up, then I can put my kinara up.

HARRY
And I can put my menorah up!

FESTUS
Those have religious significance!

GREG
So does the tree!

SUPER: FRANCISCO GUADALUPE-SALES
Sleazy romantic FRANCISCO joins the scene and puts his arms around Harry and Moe.

FRANCISCO
Francisco will solve whatever dispute you muchachos are having.

MOE
That menorah and kin-whatever scream out religion!

HARRY
So does the tree!

CLAUDIA
But they’re all add-ons. Religion is in your heart!

FRANCISCO
Ha! Francisco recognizes all religious holidays, that is why he is frequently absent from the office.

WALTER
But when you come down to it, all religion deals with is love!

FRANCISCO
The hot passionate love of religion.

MOE
But you can’t have the menorah! You think menorah, you think Jew!
HARRY
You think Moe, you think crap! The tree is as significant as the menorah!

JEROME
Don’t forget my kinara! It’s pretty significant too!

MOE
SEE! SEE! Even he says it’s significant! So it’s gotta go!

JEROME
But it’s on the same level as your tree and his menorah!

SUPER: KIWI-OFFICE WHORE
The rebelliously dressed KIWI arrives on the scene and looks around.

KIWI
What’s going on?

HARRY
Kiwi, excellent!

MOE
Who names their kid Kiwi?

WALTER
I do!

MOE
You do?

WALTER
I don’t know. Maybe.

HARRY
Kiwi, do these three items here have any religious significance to you?

KIWI
No, I’m atheist.

MOE
Thanks, doll, you’re of no importance to this conversation.

Kiwi shoves Moe.
KIWI
Shut up, Moe! Damn stooge!

Kiwi exits and the battle continues.

MOE
Harry, you gotta take the menorah down!

HARRY
Not until you take the tree down!

MOE
So what now then, Harry? You want me to put up a symbol of every tiny religious holiday so no one is offended?

HARRY
I didn’t say I was offended, I just think you should be fair.

MOE
You want fair? I’ll give you fair!

Moe pulls a sharpie out from his shirt pocket and draws a line down the table, dividing it in two. Next, he continues the line along the floor and stops at the wall on the other side of the lobby. The room has been divided!

HARRY
Moe, what the hell are you doing?

MOE
This is a line, Harry! Anyone who wants the tree to come down can stay on your side and everyone else can come to my side!

Festus, Claudia, and Walter go to Moe’s side while Greg and Jerome side with Harry. Francisco casually stands in between both groups.

FRANCISCO
This reminds Francisco of a time when he was browsing in an adult film store and came across “Dirty Fighting Nuns.”

GREG
Shut up, Francisco!
FRANCISCO
Gregorio, tu madre esta en mis pantelones.

Greg doesn’t understand.

GREG
Right. You too.

HARRY
Moe, this is insane!

MOE
It’s the only way, Harry.

A BUSINESSMAN approaches the line but is stopped by Moe.

MOE
Hey, are you offended by that tree?

The businessman looks at the tree and then back to Moe.

BUSINESSMAN
No.

Moe allows him to pass.

MOE
You’re cool, come on in.

AN ACCOUNTANT approaches the line but is stopped by Moe.

MOE
Hey, are you offended by that tree?

ACCOUNTANT
Well, I think it’s in violation of that new “No Religion, No Problem” thing that they-

Moe shoves the accountant away.

MOE
Yeah, get the hell outta here!

Kiwi returns and pins a dark poster onto the wall.

INSERT: THE POSTER

I HATE THE GOVERNMENT

BACK TO SCENE
Everyone is horrified at the poster.

FESTUS
I thought you said atheist, not anarchist!

KIWI
Well, since you guys are putting symbols of things you believe in, I figured I’d put mine.

MOE
This is unacceptable! This is just derogatory!

KIWI
And I guess being anti-Semitic is just fine with you, huh?

MOE
Anti-Semitic? Me? No!

KIWI
You seem to have a real problem with this menorah. Maybe you’re also a little racist there.

MOE
The menorah has religious significance and is not acceptable! Same with the kinara and the same with your poster! I’m just going by the company’s rules! Do you think the rules don’t apply to you?

Kiwi sides with Harry.

KIWI
Tough luck, knucklehead. I’m leaving it.

Moe turns to Harry.

MOE
Look, are you going to move that menorah?

HARRY
No, I’m not.

Moe glares at him and then walks over the menorah.
MOE
So you won’t move it, huh?

He pulls one of the candles out and splits it in half. Harry’s eyes open wide.

HARRY
Wanna play hardball, eh?

Harry pulls an ornament off of the tree and SMASHES it on the ground. Now they’re both infuriated and continue splitting candles and smashing ornaments.

Everyone else looks on in amusement.

MOE
If you want to have any candles to light then you better stop now!

HARRY
If you want your tree to look nice then you’ll stop now!

Everyone else begins to argue while Francisco starts to sing.

FRANCISCO
What if God was one of us
Just a slob like one of us-

Moe pulls a candle out of the kinara.

MOE
Harry, I’m warning you!

HARRY
You’re not winning, Moe!

FRANCISCO
If God had a name, what would it be
And would you call it to his face-

Moe sharply turns around and confronts Francisco.

MOE
God has a name! His name is God!
That is his name!

FRANCISCO
Francisco is just singing the lyrics without breaking any copyright laws.
MOE
Well, that song is politically incorrect! God is his name!

KIWI
God isn’t his name. A god is a supernatural being that is said to have powers beyond this earth.

MOE
Hey, atheist, just shut up, alright?

Kiwi smacks his face.

KIWI
God isn’t his name! A god is a thing, just like the moon is a thing, yet we stick with that boring name anyway!

HARRY
You don’t believe in God, so it shouldn’t matter!

GREG
You know, God is actually a name. In 1997 there was a basketball player named God Shammgod.

Kiwi is disgusted.

KIWI
I don’t care! That’s a horrible name anyway!

FRANCISCO
Francisco sometimes imagines himself as the god of Mount Rushmore.

Moe and Harry return to their original argument.

MOE
Look, Harry, you gotta move this now! Look at what you’ve created!

HARRY
Me? You started this!

MOE
Harry, I’m warning you!
HARRY
You’re warning me? You’ve been warning me all day, idiot. What are you gonna do? Huh? What?

The shouting escalates. Greg goes for Festus’ neck while Claudia and Kiwi engage in a cat fight. Francisco continues to sing and enjoys the scene.

RABBI LARRY HOWARD arrives on the scene. Harry walks over to him and points at Moe.

HARRY
Rabbi! You gotta help me! I’m trying to be diverse here so I put menorah on the table because the Christmas tree was there, but then this jerk, Moe, wanted to get rid of it because it shows religious significance but doesn’t think the tree does and then Jerome put the kinara there and now Moe is trying to get rid of that. Rabbi, tell this jerk that if the tree stays, then the menorah has to stay!

Rabbi Larry smiles and pats Harry’s head. He then walks over to the table and examines the damaged menorah, kinara, and tree.

RABBI LARRY
You’ve been fighting.

Everyone quietly nods.

MOE
Yeah.

RABBI LARRY
You all think you’re right about the situation, don’t you?

Everyone nods.

HARRY
What do we do, rabbi?

RABBI LARRY
Don’t you think that the tree is rather beautiful?

Harry shrugs.
HARRY
Yeah, I guess it’s pretty nice.

Rabbi Larry turns to Moe.

RABBI LARRY
And don’t you think that the menorah is rather beautiful?

Moe shrugs.

MOE
It is pretty nice with the gold and all.

Rabbi Larry smiles.

RABBI LARRY
They’re just decorations, my sons. They light up the room with beauty.

MOE
But rabbi, there are rules!

RABBI LARRY
There are no rules in decoration, my sons. If they look good, then let them be. Religion is celebrated through your hearts, not through inanimate objects.

Harry and Moe shyly look at each other.

MOE
He’s got some good points.

HARRY
Yeah.

MOE
The menorah and kinara are pretty nice.

HARRY
I like how the tree has so many colors.

They both slowly smile and then shake hands.

FRANCISCO
Francisco feels the passion.
MOE
Rabbi, what were you doing outside the building anyway?

RABBI LARRY
I was trying to convert people.

MOE
Well how do ya like that?

FRANCISCO
Francisco thinks everyone should engage in a group hug.

Everyone smiles and gathers into a big group hug. Moments later, the tree splits in half and collapses onto the table and destroys its contents. Everyone slowly turns around in agony.

MOE
This is all your fault, you know.

HARRY
Mine? How is it my fault?

MOE
If you hadn’t put the menorah there, none of this would have happened!

HARRY
So? I put it there because your tree was there!

MOE
But you still put it there, thus leading to this destruction!

Everyone else smiles, Francisco starts to sing, Harry and Moe continue to argue.

FRANCISCO
What if God was one of us...

MOE
This is your fault, Harry!

HARRY
Ah, burn in hell, Moe!

FADE OUT FROM ARGUMENT

THE END