

FESTIVAL OF FIGHTS

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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.

SUPER: CLAUDIA-ADVERTISING

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!

SUPER: WALTER-MARKETING

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