

A script from



“Rich Man, Poor Man”

by

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- What** This skit is about two strangers who meet at an airport just before Thanksgiving. Though it seems like one has it all while the other has nothing, in the end we see that their roles may be reversed. (Themes: Holidays, Family, Faith, Priorities)
- Who** Leon
Dave
- When** Present day
- Wear (Props)** Briefcase
Wristwatch
Newspaper
Wallet with money inside
Bench
Picture
Costumes that fit the characters
- Why** Luke 6:3; 1 Corinthians 13; Luke 6:38
- How** Play up the tenderness of this skit, it will hit home with the audience. Also in costuming Leon, make sure he doesn't "look" homeless, unkempt perhaps, but not disheveled. With the world we live in, the number of people out of work has reached an all time high. Unemployment and the economy have given a new face and new look to "homelessness". Make sure to play Leon not as a "bum" but someone who has really been down and out and had a tough year.
- Time** Approximately 8-10 minutes

In honor of John Hughes, the greatest character writer.

*The skit starts with **Leon Shumann**, who is homeless, sitting on some chairs in the food court of the terminal. He has a suitcase with him. **Dave McAllister**, a businessman, enters carrying a briefcase.*

Dave: *(Looking at the station monitors)* Delayed! Can you believe it? Delayed. This is just not my day. *(To **Leon**)* Excuse me, is this seat taken?

Leon: Please, please be my guest.

Dave: Thank you. I forgot how crowded these places are around the holidays.

Leon: This ain't the half of it. This place stays filled day and night, especially around the holidays.

Dave: Do you work here? *(**Leon** could be wearing a button-up shirt with work pants, but this is where he comes to sit and watch people and think about life.)*

Leon: No. I mean that I would assume an airport stays filled day and night. What with people trying to get home to see their families and all.

Dave: I promised my kids I'd be home for Thanksgiving. Doesn't look like I'm going to make it.

Leon: Well, kids are forgiving. That's something you've got going for you. They don't hold grudges too long.

Dave: But they hold them long enough. *(Pause)* Where are you heading off to?

Leon: Pardon?

Dave: Where's home for you?

Leon: Oh, um... Boston is where I grew up. I have family there. I haven't been there for years, but I guess I always consider it home.

Dave: Were you out here for business?

Leon: Yes. Business. Right.

***Dave** takes a newspaper out of his briefcase. He absentmindedly hands **Leon** the business section.*

Dave: *(Reading paper)* So what line of work are you in?

Leon: *(Staring at paper)* Marketing?

Dave: Marketing. Let me ask you a question. The cost of toys and gadgets today is ridiculous. What's up with that? My kids asked for *a (insert hot Christmas toy)*, and a *(another toy)*. Surely you know what I'm talking about. For what I paid for them, they better clean the house, wash the dog, and rake the leaves.

Leon: Sounds like you go all out for Christmas?

Dave: It's a little tradition we started once we had our kids. We said Christmas is a special time. It's a time for kids, a time for family, y'know? So we decided forget the cost. We are making sure the kids have everything they ask for, that our house looks spectacular, you know the whole bit...

Pause.

Leon: What?

Dave: It's just that it's gotten to where my wife and I are more stressed out by making Christmas at our house something our kids will look forward to all year...I think we've lost the fun of it all.

Leon: What if you started a new tradition?

Dave: Oh, you mean like sacrifice the presents and the...

Leon: Maybe.

Dave: Wouldn't that just be the perfect ending to one of those made-for-TV-Christmas-specials? Don't get me wrong, my kids are great, but if all the sudden I walked in and said, "Hey, everybody, this year we are not having presents and we're not gonna do up the house. We're just gonna sit around the room sipping hot cocoa and telling each other what we're thankful for," I doubt we'd all have a beautiful Hallmark® moment. They'd probably run me to the mall to set things right. I'm sorry...I'm rambling. I just need to get home and get Thanksgiving out of the way and then I can worry about Christmas.

To read the rest of this script and perform it, download the full version at [SkitGuys.com!](http://SkitGuys.com)

ENDING:

Dave: *(Reaches for wallet)* Look, let me give you...

Leon: No. Thank you. But, no.

Dave: *(Takes off coat and hands it to Leon.)* At least take this. Please, it is cold and I've got other coats at home. Come on Leon. Let me do this for you. *(Leon begrudgingly takes Dave's coat)* Happy Thanksgiving.

Leon: Thank you.

Dave: Leon, I wish I could do something else for you...something besides my coat.

Leon: Alright...do this for me. It's better than money.

Dave: What is it?

Leon: Go home and this Thanksgiving give the gift of yourself to your family. After you have done that, think how Christmas could be different too. After you've done that...pray about all of it.

Dave: *(Beat)* Alright Leon. I'll give it some thought.

Leon: Make sure you do. Don't waste it.

Dave: I'll do it.

Leon: Happy Thanksgiving, Dave.

Dave: Happy Thanksgiving Leon.

Leon watches Dave leave. He grabs paper and starts to read it.

The end.