

## **"The Tell-Tale Talent" Sample Preview #1**

### **Written by Frederick Passmore**

*(Open with the **Music Intro, cut #1** on the soundtrack CD.)*

*(Stan enters as the music plays, and sits down on the couch. He can have some snacks and a soda which he puts on an end table.)*

Stan: Aaaah, a lazy autumn afternoon with nothing to do but relax and watch a little TV.

*(He picks up a remote from the end table and aims toward the audience as if a TV is in front of him.)*

**(Begin Track 2** on the soundtrack CD, the TV sounds and doorbell.)

*The TV sound is heard as the sound on Cut #2 continues. A commercial is playing. Stan leans back on the sofa with his feet stretched out, and his hands behind his head, smiling contentedly.*

*On the soundtrack, the doorbell rings. Registering some annoyance, Stan switches off the TV and gets up to answer the door.)*

Stan: *(Opening the door, his annoyance fades when he sees who it is.)* Well, Brother and Sister Hill! What a surprise. Come in.

*(They enter as Stan holds open the door.)*

Pastor Hill: *(As they shake hands.)* How have you been, Stan?

Stan: I can't complain, Pastor. *(Shaking hands with Sister Hill.)* Hello, Sister Hill! So good to see you.

Sister Hill: Hi, Stan! It's been wonderful seeing you in church every Sunday, and we just wanted to drop by and ask a favor of you.

Stan: Of course! *(Motions to the couch.)* Here, have a seat! Can I get either of you anything? Something to drink, maybe?

Pastor: *(Sitting down beside his wife.)* No, thanks. Only have a minute to stay, we were just in the neighborhood and like Susan said, we just wanted to run something by you real quick.

Stan: *(Also sitting on the sofa.)* Shoot!

Pastor: Well, as you know, the church's annual Fall Festival is coming up soon, and we need volunteers to help out in various areas. We've chosen most from the sign-up list we posted, but one of the most important positions isn't filled yet.

Stan: *(Dubiously.)* Uh, huh...

Pastor: We can't seem to get anyone to be the drama director for the play. It's such an important position, and we've prayed much about it. Your name just seemed to come to mind every time.

*(Stan wrinkles his forehead and leans back, as if not liking the suggestion. Sister Hill speaks up quickly to fill the awkward silence.)*

Sister Hill: You remember, Sister Calder did it last year, but her family moved away, and no-one else is really qualified, or even interested. We thought that with your background in radio, and acting ability...

Pastor: You'd be a natural, Stan!

Stan: *(Holding up his hands.)* Whoa, hold on, Pastor. Sure, I did some drama back in high school, but that was a long time ago. I don't think that qualifies me to do anything this big.

Pastor: But that's more experience than anyone else in the church has, and we're really in need here.

Sister Hill: We already have a script, and enough actors, but they need direction from someone that knows how to make it happen.

Stan: I'm sorry, Pastor, and Sister Hill, but I'm just too busy right now to commit to something like that. It takes a lot work to pull off a good play, and I don't have the time. Or, when it comes down to it, the temperament. I'm pretty demanding, and I don't think the drama group would appreciate my telling them what to do.

Pastor: But that's what we're looking for, someone to make this play come to life! With the great script we have, I think a lot of lives could be touched for the Lord.

Sister Hill: We could work rehearsals around your schedule...

Stan: I appreciate the offer, and your confidence... but I don't think I'm your man. I'd rather let someone else do it that can do it better. I'm sorry to let you down, but I don't think the Lord could use me for something so important.

Sister Hill: *(Gently.)* None of us are really worthy of being used by the Lord, Stan. We just have to make ourselves available to Him.

Stan: I tell you what, I'll be there for the play, I'll even run the sound again like last year. That's really my best area of contribution. But thanks for the offer, I'm flattered!

Pastor: *(Standing to go, with Sister Hill standing also.)* Well, Stan, I had to ask. Everyone thinks you'd made a great director for this play.

Stan: That's nice of them, but I know myself better than they do! I'd goof it up somehow.

Sister Hill: *(As they walk to the door.)* You know, Stan, the Lord gives each of us abilities to use for His kingdom. If we don't exercise them, they can wither away, and we lose the blessings that we, and others, might have gotten from them.

Stan: *(Seeing them to the door; he laughs.)* About the only talent I have is for getting into hot water, and in over my head. I don't want to bite off more than I can chew.

Pastor: Let me know if you change your mind.

Sister Hill: Pray about it, too, Stan. God bless you! *(She shakes his hand, and walks out of the door.)*

Stan: Sure. Thanks for stopping by!

Pastor: See you at the tomorrow's service?

Stan: Sure thing! Coming to church regularly is the least I can do.

*(The Pastor gets a funny look on his face at that, but they shake hands and the Pastor leaves. Stan closes the door behind him.)*

(Continues...)