

“The Sheep's Clothing Store” Sample #1
Written by Frederick Passmore

(A smartly dressed man, Mr. Wolfe, who is the manager, enters carrying some clothes on hangers, and places them on a rack with others. On a table nearby are various clothing items and accessories, as listed in the Props description.

As he straightens his merchandise, a customer enters the store, coinciding with the entry bell ring.)

Mr. Wolfe: *(Walking over to meet the customer.)* Good afternoon, welcome to the Sheep's Clothing Store. How may I be of service?

Customer #1: Thanks, but I'm just looking.

Mr. Wolfe: Wonderful, feel free to browse, and let me know if I can help you with anything.

Customer #1: *(As he looks over the items on the counter.)* I've never seen this store before, is it new?

Mr. Wolfe: In this area, yes. But I operate a large number of stores in various areas that have been in business for many, many years.

Customer #1: Are you the owner?

Mr. Wolfe: Indeed I am, My name is Mr. Wolfe. I oversee the opening of each new store and operate it until it gets established.

Customer #1: Much business here yet?

Mr. Wolfe: Oh, yes. I can hardly keep the stock on the shelves fast enough. People love our clothes, they are the finest quality garments and accessories found anywhere. We design, manufacture and sell our own line of clothing and accessories for men and women. In fact, we sell only our own line of garments.

Customer #1: Really? I've never heard of it. Sheep's Clothing. Don't you advertise?

Mr. Wolfe: Quite frankly, no. You see, people that wear our clothes are looking to project a certain image, and if others knew that it was our clothes they were wearing, that image would suffer. We sell by word of mouth, mostly.

Customer #1: I don't get it. Don't you sell a clothing line for Christians?

Mr. Wolfe: Well, not quite. It's a bit difficult to explain...

(At this point another customer comes in, a lady or girl.)

Mr. Wolfe: Excuse me, I'll be back in a moment. *(To the new customer.)* Welcome to Sheep's Clothing, may I help you?

Customer #2: Yes, I'm supposed to meet someone tonight, and I wanted to wear something special. A friend of mine recommended your store and said you could help me with what I need.

Mr. Wolfe: Of course, you've come to the right place! Now, what type of situation did you need to dress for, and what did you have in mind?

(Customer #1 is browsing, but casually watching all of the interplay to see what happens.)

Customer #2: Well, the guy I'm meeting is a real church-goer, and I'm not. I think I'd like him, but I've heard it said that he only dates girls that go to church also. I'd like for him to think I'm a Christian, so he'll want to go out with me.

Mr. Wolfe: Ah, I see! Just the occasion that calls for our particular fashions. Please follow me, I have

an outfit that will look smashing on you!

(Customer #1 frowns slightly as he overhears the discussion and keeps watching discreetly.)

Mr. Wolfe: *(Leading the second customer to the clothes rack, he selects a dress.)* Here's a lovely little number that is not only simple, but says "I'm modest in a charming way and just a bit old-fashioned." Any church in the country would welcome a lady dressed like this.

Customer #2: *(Holding it up to herself.)* It's not very flattering or figure-revealing.

Mr. Wolfe: No, indeed. But that's the point. Once you have snared the unsuspecting young fellow, you can give it to Goodwill and go back to whatever you want to wear.

Customer #2: *(Folding it over her arm.)* It's nice, but I think it might take a bit more than a dress to convince him.

Mr. Wolfe: *(Holding up a finger.)* Very perceptive! Indeed it will. That's why we also sell the perfect accessories to any outfit you will find in the Sheep's Clothing Store. Look over here. *(He leads her to the table where the other customer is looking and standing behind.)* For example, here is a lovely gold-plated cross to put around your neck. *(He holds it up, and she takes it to look at.)*

Customer #2: It's lovely! I do notice a lot of people wearing them lately, even rock stars and rap artists.

Mr. Wolfe: Oh, yes, we supply most of them that you see on television. After all, Jesus said, "Take up your cross and follow me," and this is exactly what he meant by it! That, along with this large leather-bound Bible, *(picks one up and hands it to her)* will convincingly project the image that you, too are a Christian!

Customer #2: Oooh, now this looks religious. *(Opening the Bible.)* Hey, this Bible is blank. There's nothing in it but empty pages!

Mr. Wolfe: Well, of course, it's only for appearances sake. No need to make it heavier with all that ink!

Customer #2: That makes sense. It's not like I'd actually want to read it or anything.

Mr. Wolfe: Of course not. Who would?

Customer #2: I'll take them all. I really want this guy to like me, and I think this will do it.

Mr. Wolfe: Oh, I can practically guarantee it, my dear! Our line of Sheep's Clothing works most effectively, for men or women. I can't tell you how many happy customers have gotten a Christian to fall for them, and they never knew they weren't until they married them. And by then, it's too late.

Customer #2: Sounds wonderful, no wonder my friend recommended me to you. She shops here also, and she's been married 5 times, so it must work!

Mr. Wolfe: Will that be cash or credit?

Customer #2: I'd like to charge it. *(Hands him her card as he puts the items in a bag.)* What's the total on that?

Mr. Wolfe: *(Working on a calculator.)* Let's see, that comes to...three hundred and seventy-two dollars and fifty-three cents.

Customer #2: *(Shocked.)* What? Wow. These items are really expensive.

Mr. Wolfe: Perhaps, but remember, the only other way to look like a Christian is to actually *become* one, and that's a bit extreme, don't you think? Look at it this way; the brand name and image... \$372.53. The look on his face... priceless! And after all, consider the catch you'll get!

Customer #2: That's true, and if I play my cards right, he'll be paying for it soon anyway! *(Continues.)*