Five

The sock store. GRANT and HEATHER are there. HEATHER is folding new sock inventory.

GRANT
I want to make a new style for the collection but I don't know what.

HEATHER
We should have an athletic sock.

GRANT
No, no, no. No athletic. What does that tell our clients? "Sweat like busboys?"

HEATHER
The Fuhrman Twins have been asking for an athletic for years.

GRANT
I was thinking about it on my meditation retreat to Bali. I want this new style to be sleek. Breathable. Moisture wicking. How does that sound?

HEATHER
Sounds like an athl –
Sounds like a good adventure sock.

GRANT
Yes! Exactly! It's settled, then. That'll be our new style. The Trailblazer.

HEATHER
Great.

GRANT
I'm thinking they'll be at a higher price point.
I'm thinking of raising all the price points.

HEATHER
We just raised prices last year, do you think clients will –

GRANT
It'll be fine. We'll say it's because of inflation.

HEATHER
I just don't want to put people off. The increase last year upset some folks –

GRANT
You know what I learned, in my tech days? People will pay to feel like part of the club. They'll pay to feel like part of a club that stands for something.
Our clients? They're paying because they believe in quality. And handmade goods. And craft. They're paying to be part of the Sacques & Company club.

HEATHER
Yeah. Yeah.
You know, I realized today's my 10 year anniversary working here. 10 years in the *club*. Hah.

GRANT
Is it 10 years already?

HEATHER
Crazy, right?
And I was looking at the numbers, and this year is our best year of sales to date.
So I was thinking, maybe we could talk about a raise?

GRANT
Your commission is already good.

HEATHER
Can we at least talk about it?

GRANT
Besides, the sales could be coming from the interactive mirror –

HEATHER
Which doesn't work –

GRANT
Or from my name recognition –

HEATHER
I find that customers respond most to a great in-store experience –

GRANT
Not to interrupt – I love women's voices, my ears are so like open and big for women's voices, you know, but. I just invested in some new technology for the store, and I went a little over budget. Sooo we need to pay that off first.

HEATHER
– New technology?

GRANT
Have you not seen it yet? I think you'll like it.
GRANT goes to the back door, taps his phone a few times, and opens the door. Lights and sounds of a rave.
Hmm. No.

The GRANT closes the door, taps his phone some more, and opens it again. A CHEF is there.

CHEF
And it's up to you to cook the best possible dish using these ingredients –

The GRANT closes the door again.

GRANT
Okay. Um. I don't know what's going on.

HEATHER
You're responsible for this??

GRANT
Did you touch this?

HEATHER
No.

GRANT
I need to make a call. Oh, and before I forget. The new hire.

HEATHER
Casey.

GRANT
Maybe not Saques & Company material?

HEATHER
No, they are. They're really good.

GRANT
If you say so. But if I need to fire them, you'll be okay running the store by yourself while we find someone new, right?

HEATHER
– Um...

GRANT
Oh, and that display is crooked. We need the store to be immaculate, Heather.

CASEY enters.

CASEY
Hi Mr. Sacques! I'm back from lunch! I got my break down to under 8 minutes because, you know, I'm all about efficiency, and, and – *intentionality*. Don't want to miss any potential customers while I'm gone, you know? That's what I'm all about, Mr. Sacques, that's just the kind of employee I am.

GRANT
Excuse me.

GRANT exits.

CASEY
– Am I going to get fired?

HEATHER
What? No.

CASEY
I think I got off on the wrong foot with him.

HEATHER
I don't know if he has a right foot.

CASEY
He doesn't?

HEATHER
Metaphorically.