

Sample of Gott Mit Uns: A Play

by Dan McLaughlin  
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FRANK: And so I was going back out to the field. This might surprise you, but I hate the field. So next thing I knew Claire and I were in the waiting room outside the STAT (Space Time Access Thing). We were waiting our turn and she was just a little keyed up. I was less so.

Light thing. CLAIRE puts on “Field” hat.

CLAIRE: Am I dressed OK? I know that to be successful we have to blend in, and I am just wondering if I am dressed OK? Do you think I am dressed OK?

FRANK: Yeah you’re fine. It’s fabric. It covers your body.

CLAIRE: Oh, good, I am so glad because I was really nervous and I want to really fit in and so I know that how you dress really is important down there and I really want to dress like...

FRANK: Claire.

CLAIRE: Yes, sir, IDCRA Agent Neeregem, sir?

FRANK: Claire, first thing, Frank is fine. Second thing, relax. Third thing, relax. Fourth thing...

CLAIRE: Relax, I know. I know the importance of being relaxed and allowing the mission to come to you. It is important to be totally relaxed. And focused. It is totally important to be relaxed and focused. Let the mission come to you. Relaxed and focused. Highly trained yet still in her probationary period IDCRA Ruxanna relaxed and focused. Relaxed and focused. Relaxed and focused...

FRANK touches CLAIRE. Her arm flies out Frank catches it before it hits him.

CLAIRE: EEEEEEEK! Neeregem! What’s the matter with

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you? Can't you see I am in the middle of focusing and relaxing here?

FRANK releases CLAIRE'S arm.

FRANK: From the outside looking in, I would suggest a little less focusing and a lot more relaxing.

CLAIRE: Oh, I am just so sorry. It's just that this is my first time in the field.

FRANK: I never would have guessed.

CLAIRE: Really? Oh, dry humor, I get it. I guess it really shows then, huh?

FRANK: Just a tad. But that's ok. Listen, kid, let's just get through this with the least amount of stomach upset. We go in, we do our thing. Mumbo-jumbo. Problem solved. We go back to our desks. Life moves on.

CLAIRE: That seems just a tad blasé.

FRANK: Whatever. It works for me.

CLAIRE: I mean, well, we have a chance to engender a feeling of excitement and wonder with the universe in the lives of people who desperately need it. A sense that in this large universe you are not alone, not now and not for eternity, but that there is a fellowship a community of believers to guide and to support and finally to belong to there just for you, now and forever.

Light thing.

FRANK: I didn't remember that particular speech from the mission statement, but it had been a long time since I had read it cover to cover. I dunno, maybe it was from some keynote speech from some staff development day. They really shouldn't serve beer at those things. Not that I am complaining.

Light thing.

FRANK: Yeah, well there is that, uh, stuff, too. But let's not go

all whoo-ra micro-deitizing here. A lot of other work is going to pile up on our desks while we are out there in the field, so let's wrap this up just as quick as we can. We find this Janet lady; she finds the Deity if he is there, if it is we pop the Deity back in the box so that we can get back to that spreading that feeling of um, of um, of um...

CLAIRE: Excitement and wonder...

FRANK: Yeah that's it. Spreading the excitement and wonder thing without leaving the office. I like my chair. It's pretty darn exciting and wonderful too.

CLAIRE: Well, I still think it is important how we are dressed. You know, the mission statement says we're supposed to be world class.

FRANK: Kid, you taken a good look the world these days? I am world class. The world has come to me.

Light thing.

FRANK: I closed my eyes and napped till our names were called to enter the STAT chamber and we were whisked away to the field.

Sound effect kazoo. CLAIRE takes two chairs from center stage and puts them with the other chair stage left. JANET enters stage right.

FRANK: Where we intercepted Janet Robertson just as she was getting out of her Philosophy 7 - Introduction to Semi-Critical Thinking Skills class. Time to go to work.

Light thing.

FRANK: Ms. Robertson? My name is Frank Jones and this is Claire Smith. We're with the Student Health Mobile Mental Health Response Team and...

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