

The Adventures of Bob Suddenly - Grocery Psychic



By Doug Irving & Gary Randolph

Theme and Purpose

Where do you find the answers to life? In a world where people are faking it, we are hungry for an anchor.

Cast list	Bob Suddenly - Bob should wear a tweed sports jacket with suede elbow pads over a turtleneck. Narrator - Narrator should wear a jacket and tie and hold hand over ear like an old-time radio announcer. Patrons 1-3 - Any combination of men and women dressed variously. Stock boy - Stock boy should be dressed in a grocery store apron and cap. Preferably a teenager.
Approximate Running Time	4 1/2 minutes
Scene Description	At center stage will be card table with sign taped to the front that says: Bob Suddenly - Grocery Psychic. Table also holds tip jar, clearly marked. Behind the table should be a small set of shelves stocked with groceries. Stock boy works on a stepladder.
Prop List	Card table, tip jar, shelves stocked with groceries, step ladder, hand shopping basket with several items including two packages of tomatoes, package of meat.
Other Production Notes	A PowerPoint title slide has been provided if you have projection capabilities. This can be a fun way to open up this whimsical sketch.
Related Scriptures	Romans 1:25; Job 42:7; Matt 7:24-27
Song Suggestions	This sketch doesn't lead into songs. It leads into a sermon or, optionally, to The Sand and The Rock prayer.

The scene is a supermarket aisle. Bob Suddenly is sitting behind a card table that holds a sign saying, "Bob Suddenly, Grocery Psychic." Behind him a stock boy is stacking product. Narrator is positioned to one side, holding script. If the room has a projector system and a screen, open with the PowerPoint slide of Bob Suddenly, Grocery Psychic, included with the book.

Narrator:

Are you tired of coming home from the grocery store only to find that you failed to get that one item you really needed?

Patron 1: *(walking onto stage with a hand basket containing several items)*

Oh my, I forget now that one item I really needed! I'm so tired of this. *(freezes)*

Narrator:

Does the seemingly endless selection leave you in a tizzy?

Patron 2: *(walking onto stage)*

Oy vey! I'm in a tizzy from this seemingly endless selection! *(freezes)*

Narrator:

Are you about to go postal from buying meat that is bruised on the bottom? *(faster in lower voice as a disclaimer)* No offence intended to employees or management of the US Postal Service.

Patron 3 walks onto stage holding a package of meat. Stares at audience with manic rage.

BS: *(comes to life)*

Well stop the insanity! I'm here to solve all your grocery problems!

Narrator:

Yes, it's Bob Suddenly, Grocery Psychic. Let Bob Suddenly, Grocery Psychic, use his psychic powers *(Bob rubs temples in psychic motion)* to help you make vital grocery-related decisions.

Patron 1: (*approaches Bob's table and pulls two packages of tomatoes from basket*)
Help me, Bob Suddenly, which tomato should I buy?

BS: (*holds each to his forehead and gazes thoughtfully into space*)
Which one were you thinking of buying?

Patron 1: (*pointing*)
That one.

BS:
Well, that's the one!

Patron 1:
Wow! Thanks, Bob Suddenly. Do I pay you?

BS: (*pointing to tip jar*)
Tips are appreciated.

Patron 1 drops a few coins in the jar and walks off, smiling.

Narrator:
Yes, it's just that easy. Just bring your problems to Bob Suddenly, Grocery Psychic. But why do you need a grocery psychic?

Patron 2:
Wait a minute. Why do I need a grocery psychic?

BS:
You need milk.

Patron 2:
What?

BS:
You need milk.

Patron 2: (*arrogantly*)
Uh, I'm pretty sure I have milk.

BS:
You don't want to drink that milk.

Patron 2:
I don't?

BS:

You don't want to drink that milk.

Patron 2:

But...

BS:

Trust me. You don't want to drink that milk.

Patron 2:

Well, OK. Say, by the way, where ...

BS:

Aisle 10.

Patron 2:

Man, you're good. Thanks!

Patron 2 drops coins in tip jar and walks off. Stock boy in background shakes his head, disbelievingly.

Narrator:

Not only will Bob Suddenly, Grocery Psychic, help you remember what you would have forgotten. Not only will Bob Suddenly, Grocery Psychic, tell you exactly what you need. He will also come through in the nick of time with an ounce of prevention.

Patron 3: *(walks up holding meat and breathing erratically)*

Is it bruised? I gotta know, man. Is it bruised?

BS: *(holds meat up to head. Then sits it on table and looks at Patron 3)*

You know, sir, it isn't about the meat.

Patron 3:

Is it bruised or isn't it?

BS:

I'm sensing that your arteries aren't in good shape. I think you should get a nice celery instead.

Stock boy coughs in background.

Patron 3: *(grabs BS by lapels - yelling)*

It's bruised, isn't it?

BS:

Uh... yes, it's bruised. Don't work yourself up. Remember your arteries.

Patron 3: *(lets go of lapels - through gritted teeth)*

Fine! Which way to the celery?

BS:

In the prozac section - I mean produce section.

Patron 3 drops a knife in tip jar and stomps off.

Narrator:

So when you have grocery questions remember Bob Suddenly, Grocery Psychic.

Narrator walks off stage. Bob Suddenly stands up. Stock boy walks over to him, shaking his head.

BS:

Pretty amazing, eh?

Stock boy:

Pretty amazing that you have all these people duped.

BS:

Duped! Duped?! Why I'm helping these poor souls.

Stock boy:

You're taking advantage of them!

BS:

Taking advantage is such a strong, unfortunate term. I'm giving them the assurance they so desperately need in this world of uncertainty and perishable goods. *(grabs a newspaper from a rack)* Look at the world we live in. People need something to hold on to. I'm providing an anchor. *(picks up tip jar)* And these people are grateful for my help.

Stock boy:

Yeah... but your anchor isn't attached to anything. How does just telling people what they want to hear help anybody?

BS:

Hey, maybe I can help you out. You know, my psychic powers extend beyond vegetables. (*nudging*) I've seen you looking at that checkout girl on register three. Let's see... (*puts fingers to temples for a minute - then shakes head*) No, forget it. She's not interested.

Stock boy:

What? You are such a con man. You're just making this stuff up, aren't you?

BS:

Kid, everybody is just making it up as they go along.

Stock boy:

No.

BS:

Yep!

Stock boy:

Some people have answers.

BS:

Ha! Everybody's clueless and terrified that everyone else will find them out. So that's why they fake it.

Stock boy: (*points out in congregation*)

What about that guy right there?

BS: (*matter-of-factly*)

Faking it.

Stock boy:

What about that nice lady beside him?

BS:

You see, she's listening to him. And he's faking it. So...

Stock boy:

OK. That guy.

BS:

Hasn't a clue. (*points at successive people in congregation*) Faking it. Faking it. Confused. Puzzled. Befuddled. Mystified. Hairpiece. And I think that guy's asleep.

Stock boy:

Okay. Okay. (*pointing at pastor*) What about him?

BS:

I'm not sure. Let's hear what he has to say.

BS and Stock boy exit.

Segue to sermon or to "The Sand and the Rock Prayer."

Fade to black

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