

The Porch Room presents

Umbrella

A Screenplay

By

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THE
PORCH
ROOM

UMBRELLA

1. Native American male.
2. White male.
3. White female.
4. White male.
5. White man, older, fatter.
6. Black male.
7. Black female.
8. German male, with accent.
9. German male, with accent.
10. Japanese male, short, with accent.
11. Hispanic male.
12. Hispanic female.
13. Hispanic male.
14. Hispanic female.
15. Hispanic male.
16. Hispanic female.
17. Hispanic child.
18. Hispanic female.
19. Hispanic child.

All characters wear suits, including the children. Wall street types.

Thunder.

1 looks to the sky. He opens up his large and brightly colored umbrella.

Rain.

2 enters, shielding his head with a newspaper.

2
Hey. Mind if I share?

1
Sure.

2
Ah, thanks. You're a lifesaver.

1 and 2 stand under the umbrella.

2
Listen. Would you mind, could I buy this off you?

1
Buy it?

2
It's a great umbrella. I'll give you fifty bucks.

1
Well, uh.

2
I'll throw in my watch.

1
Jeez, is that a Rolex?

2
Deal?

1
Uh. Sure.

2
Great.

2 gives 1 cash and watch, grabs umbrella handle.

1 and 2 stand under the umbrella. 3, 4, and 5 rush on.

3

Hey!

2

Hey! Just waiting for you.

5

That's a nice umbrella, Johnson.

2

Brand new, boss.

3, 4 and 5 shove their way under the umbrella. 1 tries to hold his position, but it is becoming crowded.

5

Mind if I give it a whirl?

2

Um. Sure.

5

Whee!

5 grabs the umbrella and begins to stroll gaily around in the rain. Everyone struggles to keep up, becoming belligerent. 1 is getting pushed out the most. He loses his fifty in the wind. He chases it for a moment, but it blows beyond his reach.

2

Sir! Can I have it back, now?

5

With that kind of attitude, Johnson, you won't go far in this company.

4

Hey! It was his in the first place!

3

I think he's right.

5

Mutiny?

2

I just want it back.

5
Well consider this your
termination!

2
You can't terminate me! I quit!

3
Me too!

4
Me too!

5 is shoved away.

5
Damn labor unions!

He launches back into them, but they push back, knocking him out of the picture. The watch is knocked out of 1's hands and into the street. 6 swings by, stepping on it, breaking it.

6
That's a sweet umbrella.

4
Little help?

6
Sure.

2
Hold this.

6 holds it, 7 is passing by.

4
You too.

7 is pushed next to 6, and the umbrella is forced into their hands. A strip of fabric now hangs off of it, poking 2 in the face.

2
That was crazy.

4
Let's make sure it never happens
again.

3
Can I make a suggestion?

2
It's all right, we'll handle this.

4 has pulled out a pad and pen. He pushes 6 into a hunched position and starts writing on his back.

4
Right, it's your umbrella, but we should all be able to share it.

Everyone except 1, who is now 60% in the rain, concurs.

4
You're the owner, she and I were here first, and you two are holding it, so you can stay. Who's that?

1
Me?

2
(Shrugs)
I dunno.

1
What?

4
Yeah, get him out of here.
Frickin' homeless people.

6
You know, this is bullshit. You should be holding your own damn umbrella.

2
Hm. I see some logic in that.

4
I didn't write that down. That's not part of the deal.

2
It's just fair.

4
Touch that thing and I'm leaving.

2
I'd like to see you try.

4 grabs for the umbrella. 2 and 4 wrestle for a moment. 6 grabs 4 by the face and shoves him out into the rain.

4
(crying)
I just wanted somebody to hold the umbrella!

2
Oh, it's OK. I'll hold it. Now come on back.

4
OK.

2 and 4 hug.

2
Now you two.

4 and 6 hug briefly and unaffectionately. 2 hands the umbrella back to 6.

2
Now anybody can stay who wants to.

3 AND 7
Can we make a suggestion?

2, 4, 6
NO!

3
Hey check out those guys.

7
They're taking everyone's umbrellas.

8 and 9 swing by, carrying armfuls of umbrellas. They call to their victims in thick accents.

8
Get a room, eh fagboy?

9
Umbrellas are for ze normal peoples, ya?

While everyone looks on in disgust, 10 runs up from behind, takes their umbrella, and runs away.

2

HEY!

Everyone chases down 10, leaving 1 in the rain. They come back with the umbrella, plus the umbrellas, plus 8 and 9.

8 AND 9

Ve're sorry. Can we stay?

10, palm slapped over a black eye, is hopping mad. He yells in Japanese, then walks off.

A lightning bolt, and a yelp. Everyone winces.

6

That's some bad news.

4

I don't think we should let any more people under here.

8

Ya, no more.

2

That's not very friendly.

7

I agree.

3

Shut up, you!

11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 approach.

11

Can we share your umbrella?

2, 6, 7

Sure!

3, 4, 8, 9

NO!

11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 shuffle under the umbrella.

4

NO! We said no more people!

7

Oh, who elected you God?

3
Shut up, bitch!

13
Can I say something?

19
I'm hungry!

16
Can't we all get along?

4
SHUT UP SHUT UP SHUT UP! It's our
umbrella, we were here first, and
you're all leaving. Agreed?

HALF
YES!

OTHER HALF
NO!

Cries of "YES" and "NO" are bantered back and forth, until
finally, 4 grabs the umbrella.

4
Give me that.

2 and 4 fight, and everyone joins in. 1 is inadvertently
punched in the face. 4 grabs the spokes by accident, and
tears half of them out of the frame.

The umbrella is torn apart.

7
Oh, brilliant, Arnold.

4
Don't you start with me! This was
all your fault!

7
My fault?

11
What?

7
I'm not taking this.

4
Come back here.

4 walks off after 7, and the crowd follows, yelling. Only 1 remains, looking at the remnants of his umbrella, rain soaking him to the bone.

