

The Trouble With Terry

By Jack Hall

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CHARACTERS

Don, Mary, Jack- Conservative Christians

Terry- A Christian Democrat

Mary waits at center. Don enters with some grocery bags.

DON- Mary!

MARY- Hey, Don! I was wondering where you were.

DON- Oh, I wouldn't miss this for anything. Just stopped off to pick up a few more groceries.

MARY- More? We already have so much.

DON- Hey, the folks at the shelter don't have much. They can never have enough.

Besides, when have you ever known me to be half-hearted about the Lord's work?

MARY- Very true.

Jack enters.

JACK- Van's all loaded up, kids.

MARY- Not quite. We have a few more bags to add.

DON- Just some extra goodies, and a few toys for the kids.

JACK- I should have known. Good thing we have a little room.

MARY- Great. Then all we need is Terry to show up.

DON- He's not here yet?

MARY- He's on the way.

JACK- Can't leave without Terry. He's the man with the contacts.

MARY- He practically lives at the shelter during the holidays.

DON- It's going to be so nice to share his joy this time around.

JACK- Terry's a special guy.

MARY- So giving, always displaying the love of Christ to others.

DON- A living witness that all of us can follow!

Terry enters. He is wearing a T-shirt that is either pro-Democratic party, or pro-a-well-known-DEMOCRATIC-candidate.

TERRY- Hey, guys. Are we ready?

Mary screams when she sees Terry's shirt. Don and Jack exchange a look of disbelief. Terry jumps at Mary's scream.

TERRY- Sorry, did I miss something? Did I say the secret word?

JACK- T-T-Terry...

TERRY- Yes?

JACK- What is with that... that... shirt?!?

MARY- That Democrat shirt!

DON- (*laughs*) You old joker. Guys, don't you see? This is Terry's Halloween costume.

MARY- It is?

DON- Sure. Terry's a Democrat! A big, scary, liberal Democrat!

MARY- Ohh, I get it. Haha, nothing scarier than a Democrat!

JACK- (*joins the laughter*) Better take that off before we get to the shelter, Terry. Don't want to scare the kiddies.

TERRY- What are you talking about? This isn't a costume.

The laughter stops.

JACK- Terry, joke's over, man. Lose the shirt.

TERRY- No.

JACK- Why not?

TERRY- I'm voting for these guys. In fact I was doing volunteer work for the campaign this morning.

DON- You mean you're a real Democrat??

TERRY- Yes.

MARY- No! That can't be! Christians can't be Democrats!

TERRY- Why not?

MARY- Because... they just can't!!

TERRY- Says who?

DON- Says everyone! Everyone knows that! Christians must vote Republican!

TERRY- Give me one good reason why!

MARY- Democrats kill babies! You're a baby killer!

TERRY- What??

DON- Democrats support abortion, don't they?

TERRY- They don't go around forcing people to have abortions.

JACK- But they have an agenda, man--

TERRY- (*interrupts*) They have an agenda I support, like taking care of the poor and the elderly. I think all of us here believe in that cause, or why else would we be headed to a homeless shelter?

DON- And how do they pay for those programs? By raising taxes!

JACK- Yeah! That kind of work is charity, and should stay with the charities!

TERRY- And if people gave enough money, I'd agree with you. But they don't. So what if I pay a little more in taxes? My brothers and sisters are in need, going hungry out there.

DON- Merciful heavens, listen to him! He's not just a Democrat! He's a socialist!!

TERRY- Don, please, I'm not a--

JACK- Don, this goes beyond ideology. It's clear to me that Terry is demon possessed!

TERRY- What?!?!?

MARY- Cast it out it him! Cast out the demons!

JACK- (*laying hands on Terry*) We command thee, in the name of the Lord, to come out of this man!

DON- You have to call the demon by its name!

MARY- Clinton! Clinton! That has to be his name!

JACK- Come out, Clinton! Come out in the name of Jesus!

Terry pushes them off.

TERRY- Will you guys get off me? I'm not demon possessed.

MARY- Oh yeah, like a demon-possessed man would admit it.

TERRY- I'm not demon-possessed, Mary. And I'm not a baby killer or a socialist. I'm just a Christian who prays and tries to make the best decisions I can when I vote.

JACK- Wow, that demon is in there tight.

DON- This kind can only come out by prayer. Alert the church prayer chain!

JACK- To the phone banks!

Don, Jack, and Mary run off.

TERRY- Hey, guys! What happened to us going to... *(sighs, starts to pick up the bags)*

Guys? What about the shelter? Well, if anyone needs me... someone has to go feed the homeless. Guess that's what we evil Democrats do best.

Terry exits, sad and hurt.