

WE LOCKING EVERYTHING UP

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INT. TARGET - DAY

DAN and BLAKE pass through an incredibly nondescript Target.

BLAKE

I can't wait to get toothpaste.

DAN

What- Yeah, I know. You said "I can't wait to get toothpaste" like three times back at the apartment.

BLAKE

Well sue me for trying to manifest my life, Dan.

DAN

You also said it four more times in the Uber. Which is fine- but also why she freaked out and dropped us off two-and-a-half miles from here.

(then)

Three stars as a passenger.

BLAKE

Do you want me to get gingivitis?

DAN

Fucking three stars, dude.

They arrive at general health and hygiene, but notice everything is locked up behind plexiglass.

DAN (CONT'D)

I am so tired of stores locking everything up.

(then)

Right, dude? Blake? Blake?

Dan looks around the aisle. Nothing. He circles a few nearby rows when--

BLAKE

Dan? Dan!

Dan turns to see Blake locked behind a plexiglass window.

DAN

Holy shit. How- how'd you get locked behind there?

BLAKE

I don't know. I was looking for candles.

DAN
Candles?

BLAKE
Yeah- you seemed mad. And I got bored. And I like sandalwood.

Blake squirms behind the glass. He holds up two candles.

DAN
It's... It's okay. Easy. This is fine. I'll go find someone.

Dan sprints down the Target and starts to notice everything is locked behind a plexiglass pane: books, a couple in their twenties, furniture, a youth league basketball team, dry goods, holy shit a baby.

Dan edges towards the the infant when he sees an EMPLOYEE turn corner of an aisle. Fuck the kid, Dan follows after the red shirt.

DAN (CONT'D)
Hey excuse me- Excuse-

Dan turns the corner and sees the employee LOCKED behind plexiglass.

DAN (CONT'D)
Hey! What the fuck is going on at this store?

EMPLOYEE
I don't know. They wouldn't tell us. It's an AI modeling algorithm.

DAN
Okay, that's just tech-bro madlibs.

EMPLOYEE
It started at CVS, worked really well, and began rolling out at Target and Walgreens too.

DAN
What about Walmart?

EMPLOYEE
No.

DAN
Okay, so how do I get out of here?

EMPLOYEE
You just need to--

An alarm RINGS out. A trap door opens below the employee's feet sending them plummeting.

EMPLOYEE (CONT'D)
Aghhhh!!!!

DAN
Holy shit.

Dan panics and beelines towards the exit. He spots an old lady with a walker struggling to pick up a magazine and slows down to help.

BLAKE (O.S.)
Dan, don't do it!

Dan notices Blake watching nearby behind the glass.

An unsuspecting shopper pauses to assist when she bear hugs them using her walker to lock, and barrels them both into a plexiglass pane that swallows the two. The window opens back up and the old lady resumes "picking up" her magazine.

BLAKE (CONT'D)
She's been doing that since you left. Get outta here. Forget me.
But grab candles if you can.

Dan nods at Blake and continues.

EXT. TARGET - CONTINUOUS

The sliding doors close behind Dan as he makes it out. He soaks in his triumph.

DAN
Haha yes. Yes!!!

He takes a step forward- *thunk* but is stopped by an invisible wall. Dan scrambles, looking left and right.

DAN (CONT'D)
What? No. No, no, no, no, no.

Dan falls on his knees.

REVEAL

The entire Target is on a shelf locked behind a glass pane.