

"DON'T ACT LIKE YOUR STEALING"

INT. CLOTHING STORE - DAY

CARRIE and VERONICA (both 30s, cute but casual) walk into a boutique clothing store. Veronica carries a stylish LARGE PURSE and happily peruses the clothing racks. Carrie looks bored, arms crossed. She glances at her watch.

CARRIE

We don't have time for this. We're supposed to be back in ten minutes.

VERONICA

Oh, come on. Doug is out of the office. No one's gonna notice if we take a long lunch.

Carrie crosses her arms even more tightly and leans against a wall.

CARRIE

I hate shopping.

Veronica rolls her eyes.

VERONICA

You're crazy. No one hates shopping.

Veronica continues to check out various items in the store.

CARRIE

It stresses me out! Every time I walk into a store I go into panic mode. My brain just keeps thinking: Don't act like you're stealing. Don't act like your stealing. Don't act like you're stealing.

Veronica looks confused.

VERONICA

But we're not stealing.

CARRIE

Exactly! But they don't know that. Didn't you ever work at the mall as a teenager? Sales associates have to assume everyone is shoplifting. They gotta look for the signs.

VERONICA

(not amused)
The signs?

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CARRIE

Like, look at your purse for example.

VERONICA

What's wrong with it?

CARRIE

It's huge! You could fit half the store in that bag. Plus it's wide open. You might as well walk in here yelling, "Hey, everyone! I'm here to steal!"

Veronica looks around, embarrassed.

VERONICA

Okay, okay. Keep your voice down. I'll just zip it closed then.

CARRIE

No, that's worse! Then it looks like you threw something in there and you're trying to hide it. Just leave it alone.

She bats Veronica's hand away from her purse.

CARRIE (CONT'D)

Okay, another obvious sign is holding things too close to your body. Avoid suspicion by holding all items where people can see them, like so.

Carrie demonstrates by picking up a sweater and holding it ridiculously far away from her body while she admires it.

Veronica follows suit and does the same thing with a hat.

VERONICA

Like this?

She glances around the store.

VERONICA (CONT'D)

Can they tell I'm not stealing now?

CARRIE

Don't start looking around like that! That's another sign. It makes you look suspicious, like you're trying to keep tabs on the sales people.

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Carrie physically turns Veronica's head so it's facing back toward the hat she's holding. Veronica is irritated and swats at her.

VERONICA

Stop it!

CARRIE

You stop it!

VERONICA

Shhhh! You're making too much noise.

CARRIE

Don't whisper at me! That's another sign.

They accidentally knock over some items from a nearby shelf.

CARRIE (CONT'D)

Stop drawing so much attention to us. It looks like we're stealing.

VERONICA

But we're not stealing!

They knock over some more stuff.

CARRIE

Goddammit. The sales lady is coming over here! Quick, duck!

They duck behind a rack of clothes. After a beat, Carrie pokes her head out.

CARRIE (CONT'D)

False alarm. She went the other way.

Veronica pops back up. Carrie looks at her, horrified.

CARRIE (CONT'D)

Oh no.

VERONICA

What?

She points to Veronica's purse.

CARRIE

That infinity scarf just fell into your bag.

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VERONICA

Shit. Well, I'll just put it back.

She reaches into her purse, but Carries stops her.

CARRIE

No, you can't! They're gonna see us pulling that scarf out of your purse and they'll think we're stealing! No one's gonna believe it just fell in there.

Now Veronica is panicked.

VERONICA

Well what do we do?

CARRIE

There's only one thing we can do.
(pauses dramatically)
We leave here and never come back.

VERONICA

With the infinity scarf in my purse? Are you serious?

CARRIE

Yes.

VERONICA

But...that's stealing!

CARRIE

I know! I'm freaking out too, but it's the only way we can get out of here without looking like we're stealing.

VERONICA

But I don't even like this scarf!

CARRIE

It's the only way!

Veronica takes a deep breath.

VERONICA

Okay, on the count of three we run out of this store as fast as we can. And we never tell anyone about this.

CUT
DOWN TO

CARRIE
~~Agreed. And~~ just so you know, if
the police start chasing us, I will
totally Thelma and Louise it with
you.

END

Veronica puts a hand on her shoulder.

VERONICA
You're a really good coworker.

Carrie puts a hand on Veronica's other shoulder.

CARRIE
One...

VERONICA
Two...

BOTH
Three!

They make a mad dash out the front door and an ALARM SOUNDS.

VERONICA (O.S.)
You were right! Shopping is
stressful!