

Cyber Therapy

This week has been a bit rough. It actually started last Saturday when the manager asked me how I thought our newest employee was doing. Honestly, I thought he had been doing really well for having worked a total of 6 days even coming in on his day off for 90 minutes to learn how to change a ballast in the lights (something I know nothing about). I have worked the most with him – all but two of those 6 days. I found it really strange that he had not been learning the register since we are a small store and everyone is trained on it. Sometime soon, I was told (red flag number one should have gone up).

A week ago Monday, he asked if he could have a day off for family. The manager agreed to give him the requested day off since there was enough help scheduled. I do not know if she informed him that it was not a great idea to be asking for a day off so early in his employment especially when the schedule was already posted. The assistant manager approached me and asked if I knew why he needed the day off because he had asked another co-worker to take his hours so he “could go to the movie.” I knew for a fact that he was not going to the movie and really wanted the day off for a legitimate reason. Plus if it was really putting a strain on his employment, why give him the day off to begin with?

I was also informed that he was not doing his job appropriately. Mainly that he really did not like to straighten shelves. Well... zoning, facing, OH, I think we call it fronting is one of my absolute FAVORITE jobs . I jokingly told him to suck it up and do it anyway to which he playfully (AND I MEAN PLAYFULLY) told me to “Shut up.” I know how Nate can be (right [Mare](#)?) and I immediately gave him a look and shook my head... playfully or not it was not a good idea to tell a fellow employee to be quiet even if we know each other well enough to know that it was light-hearted. Correct me if

I'm wrong, but you (or at least I) don't go through three months of rehearsals of a show and not know something about most of the cast mates. The nights I worked with him, he did everything I asked and a few things I did not that needed done. I even asked if he had been trained on the register anymore than the basics I showed him the day he started when it was just the two of us in the store for a busier than expected 7 hours. WOW... something really major must have happened those two days I was not there.

On Monday, I received a phone call. "What the fudge just happened?" I was beside myself. I had defended him and stated my position to the boss and for what?! Why did she even ask my what I thought. Was I the only one who thought he deserved better than 6 days to acclimate himself? Anyway, he was walking to my brother's house and I told him to wait there and I would be out to talk to him and try to make sense of it. I told him what I knew and told him in no way did I understand why this happened. After spending time calming him down, we watched a movie. The rest of the week at work, I have noticed a heaviness that has not been there before and have been asked if there have been any "repercussions" following his dismissal. I just say no and let it go at that. I made my point a week ago... apparently not very well. Nate told me that he would see me next week as he went to spend a few days with family. Therapeutic.