HI MY NAME IS

A Libretto
Music by John Supko

ROBERT FITTERMAN

Publishing the Unpublishable
/ubu editions
2006
ACT I

Ben is lowered from the ceiling. After a moment of being alone, various office “products” begin to be lowered from the ceiling and set in place in Ben’s office cubicle. As each product is lowered, it is possible that a face is reflected on the product as a “chorus.” “Parallel Text A” offers text for the chorus, but other products could be included in the décor without texts. The products continue to descend as Ben goes through his monologue. After the cubicle is completely decorated, a mirror could be implemented to make the cubicle appear as one of many).

Hi, my name is Ben! I’m calling from PEOPLES WIRELESS. Is Rebecca Smith home? How you doing Rebecca? Are you satisfied with your cellular phone service? Not surprised... most people are not. Well, I have good news and it won’t cost you anymore than your present provider even if you are under contract. Please, just hear me out. If you don’t like what you hear, then hang-up and I promise no hard feelings... just joking. Because your contract with your present provider is nearly over, you have been selected by PEOPLES WIRELESS to receive a free FULLY-FEATURED cell phone by mail in a rebate program along with a special calling plan that includes FREE ROAMING, FREE LONG DISTANCE and many other up-to-the-minute features. Included with your new phone PEOPLES WIRELESS also gives you value added services like CALLER ID, CALL WAITING, 3 WAY CONFERENCE CALLING AND VOICE MAIL etc. In addition, this package comes loaded with benefits for you. It’s a limited promotion that is available through this special telephone offer for the low price of $35.99 monthly. Yes that includes everything... yes, that is unlimited during prime time? Prime time? The rates are competitive—the same as you pay now, even less. What I want to do right now is go ahead and verify that I have your correct mailing address to start processing your order so that we can get this valuable package out to you. That’s ok, you don’t have
to commit now—we’ll send you the contract to look over and I’m sure
you’ll find it to your liking. Also, if you sign up within the next 10 days,
you’ll get the first month free. Yes, I guarantee it. I have your address
as 1 Washington Street Apartment 7A, NY NY 10013. Is that correct?
GREAT! Well, this package brings along with it, a host of powerful fea-
tures and value added benefits. BUT FIRST I do have a few quick sur-
vey questions, if you don’t mind. You’re so patient. Are you above 18
years of age? Correct? Which credit card currently serves you the best
(VISA/MASTER/DISCOVER)? Why? This limited promotion is held
every year for preferred customers of V/M/D, and you carry a debit or
credit card with master/visa logo on it. Is that correct? As previously
stated Ms. Smith, this special benefit package will be shipped to you by
UPS within 3-7 business days. All you have to do is agree to a one-year
plan at a low $35.99 per month. Included with this plan, you will
receive unlimited minutes and 300 minutes primetime, for as long as
you stay with us. And as a special offer we are also going to send you a
free fully-featured cell phone of worth $250. AND I KNOW YOU WILL
LOVE THIS PHONE? Why are you laughing? Really, it’s a great phone,
a great deal. I know you’ll agree when you look over the contract. But
first: I have some important information for you to write down. Do you
have a pen and paper handy? My name is Ben Sietz—that’s “S” like
“Sam” I-E-T-Z and I am the cellular consultant issuing you your INITI-
ATION package today. My representative ID is “A” like “apple” 4-3-9-2-
1. Can you read that back to me? Great. You have a really nice voice,
you know… Keep that pen and paper ready, because our verification
department will be giving you the customer service number for your
region. OK. What I need from you to get the ball rolling is: Please read
me your name as it appears on your credit card. Don’t worry, I’m not
asking for the number until you agree to the contract, which I’m sure
you will find satisfactory. Ok, Ms. Smith please keep all of that infor-
mation available for verification. Please hold the line for a moment,
while I transfer you to our customer care department so we can make
sure your introductory package reaches the correct location. This
might take a minute… (sigh)… I’m sorry that was pretty loud, eh? I’m
here on the line while we wait, in case you have any questions…You’ve been really kind, and I have to say you have a really nice voice—did I say that before? I’m sorry, but I mean you sound really sympathetic, your voice does? I bet you’re a really nice person… I’m sorry is that inappropriate? I don’t mean to be inappropriate. Uh, I’ve just had a really bad day… a really bad few days… yeah uh-huh yeah… well, I just went through a terrible break-up, but I’m sure you don’t want to hear about that right? I mean… after all… right… thank you, you’ve been really kind… just hold the line and customer care should pick-up shortly… right… oh that…I mean, do you want to hear about it…? it’s awful, you know… you’re so kind… no, no, we were together for years, for like 3 years… she used to work here, we met here and then she quit and went back to school and I was, like, supporting her… you know what I mean? yeah she moved in last year, we lived together and stuff… are you sure you want to hear all this? Are you in a relationship? no? why not? I bet you’re nice anyway? anyway, I earned all the income. I don’t know where to start… no, not really? are you sure this is ok? Well, one thing is she started “going out with the girls” a lot more than she used to but I trusted her and said to have fun. You know what I mean? When she was out of town for a week with her folks I opened her cell phone bill and found call after call to the same number at all times of the day and night. She even called this number 5 minutes after midnight on New Year’s Eve while we were at a party. I know, it’s awful right… I’m not sure what’s taking customer service so long… yeah, right… I know… I had no idea… I found the guy’s house and sure enough there was her car in his drive way. I know, I know… you’re right… neither she nor the chickenshit boyfriend would answer the door… yeah, right… is this ok? have you ever had anyone cheat on you? Once she finally came home, she told she had a new boyfriend… that she had trouble telling me about, obviously, leaving me, all that… can you believe it… I know, right… OK, here’s customer care… hello?… wait a minute… oops, I guess we lost them… let me try again… oh, well yeah… Of course, I was angry but once I got over that I pleaded with her to hear me out. She locked herself inside the bathroom… what
could I do? You know what I mean? I shouted what I had to say. I even blamed myself... am I keeping you from anything... is this really stupid? no?... it's embarrassing I guess... no? I mean I was apologizing for whatever I might've done wrong, however I might've contributed to our break-up. By that time I think my words started to sink in, you know what I mean? She came out of the bathroom at least. Was I wrong to apologize? I mean, I'm not perfect either you know? I told her I would beg and plead for her to get back with me... I just wanted us to be on good terms even if we were breaking up, I mean 3 years is a long time, right? What happened next? We talked a little and then she said she was moving out... yeah, just like that, within minutes... this was on Sunday... Sunday night... yeah... I know, it's awful... (Hi, this is Jean from customer care...) OK, customer care is finally on the line—you can go right through... OK. It was nice talking to you; thank you so much for your time.
PARALLEL TEXT A (CHORUS)

Wide Office Cubicle Panel/Partition.
Easy ONE TOOL installation with Free Shipping. Product is compatible with Herman Miller® Action Office. Please remember to order your CONNECTORS and select your fabric and trim color choices from our menu. Manufactured with acoustical batting. “Helps to control noise!” Note: Panels are not free standing. Wire management and power sold separately. 34” High X 12” Wide Office Cubicle Panel/Partition. HA3412. $149.00.

Contemporary Task Chair w/ Arm Rests.
Great value featuring extra wide 19”W x 17”D seat and 19”W x 21”H back. Includes pneumatic gas lift for adjusting the seat height from 18”-21”H. Spring tilt tension adjusts the back recline and locks forward to keep chair in an upright position. Large 10” x 3” armrests are padded for extra comfort. Olefin blend fabric upholstery. Stylish brush finished metal base with casters. Price: $62.00.

Partition Additions Cubicle Wall Spring Clips.
Holds 40 Sheets, Graphite, 4-Pack, $2.59/PK. Item No./AKA: FEL75270. Symbols: (Key). Additional Information: Contemporary style coupled with unique versatility makes this plastic panel accessory professional looking and functional. Fastens securely to any tackable partition to help customize and maximize your workspace. Easily repositioned utilizing steel points. Display important notes, memos, phone lists, reference materials, etc. Holds up to 40 sheets. 1-7/8”x5/8”x1-7/8”.
Double Sided Tape with Dispenser for Permanent Application.
HI MY NAME IS       ROBERT FITTERMAN

1/2”x450” 3M. $2.49/RL. Item No./AKA: MMM137. Symbols: (Key). Additional Information: Self-Sticking adhesive on both sides for joining and mounting board or paper. Transparent use for mounting to acetate or glass. Durable for permanent application.

**Precision-Crafted Dial-A-Phrase Dater w/ 12 Phrase Options and Date.**
Corporate Express Brand. $6.32/EA. Item No./AKA: CEB99034. Symbols: (Key). Additional Information: Dial-A-Phrase offers; Eleven phrases plus date: Answered, Canceled, Billed, Delivered, Entered, Paid, Received, Shipped, Completed, Void, Filed and Approved options. CEB99032, CEB99526, CEB99527, CEB99528 offer Date capability, Rec’d, Ans’d, Ent’d, Paid, A.M. and P.M. Height of words as follows: #0; 3/32” or 2.5mm, #1; 1/8” or 3mm, #1-1/2; #2; 3/32” or 5mm.

**Economy Concealed Rivet Round-Ring View Binder.**
1” Capacity, Letter, White EXP/Corporate Express $1.35/EA. Item No./AKA: EXP60011. Symbols: (Key). Additional Information: Clear overlay, two interior pockets with concealed-rivet construction. Sheet lifters included on the 3” size. 8-1/2”x11” sheet size.

**Steel Wire Paper Clips.**
#1 Size, 100/Box. Diversity Product Solutions $.03/BX. Item No./AKA: DPS40020. Symbols: (Key). Additional Information: Each clip is formed to exact specifications from the finest quality steel wire and is produced from a heavier gauge steel than standard clips. **Preferred Stainless Steel Scissors, 8” Straight, Blue Handles.**
Corporate Express Brand. $6.32/EA. Item No./AKA: CEB10648.
Symbols: (Key). Additional Information: Corrosion-Resistant stainless steel blades ground inside and out for easy cutting. Blades are molded into blue handles for added strength and longevity.

Regeneration Recycled Plastic Stackable Desk Tray.
Side Load, Letter, Black Rubbermaid. $2.02/EA. Item No./AKA: RUB46106. Symbols: (Key). Additional Information: Regeneration desk accessories work as hard for the environment as they do for you. Made of 25% post-consumer recycled plastic, the full line of Regeneration products will keep you and our landfills clutter-free. Stacks and nests easily for convenient desktop sorting and filing. 13-1/4”x9”x2-7/8”.

Magnifier Lamp Base for Model# 7121 Lamp.
Weighted, Black. Electrix. $45.81/EA. Item No./AKA: ELEB60BK. Symbols: (Key). Additional Information: Manufacturer’s five-year warranty. Architect’s Clamp-On Swing Arm - Spring-suspension, 45” reach arm. Adjustable clamp base (optional weighted base sold separately). Metal shade with internal reflector increases light output and keeps shade cool. Accepts 100W bulb, GEL-41036 (not incl.). Ul and CSA listed. Made in U.S.A. Weighted Base Only 9 lbs.

Reversible/Erasable Universal/Vacation Schedule Wall Planner.
Undated, 36”x24” At-A-Glance. $22.39/EA. Item No./AKA: AAGPM25028. Symbols: (Key). Additional Information: Page size: 36”x24”. Reversible: Side One: Undated universal schedule ruled with 22 lines plus notes space; Side Two: Undated vacation schedule with...
12 months and space for 25 employees. New bolder and larger print is easier to see and read. Bright white background allow for easier viewing and reading. Sanford wet-erase marker included.

**High-Profile Backrest with Adjustable Strap.**
13”x4”x12-5/8”, $20.74/EA. Item No./AKA: FEL91926. Symbols: (Key). Additional Information: Modifies chairs to provide firm, responsive support. Backrest is designed for chairs with a straight back that offer little or no built-in support. High-Density foam maintains the back’s natural curve, promoting the recommended neutral posture. Adjustable strap holds cushion in desired position. Soft, brushed covering is removable and easy to clean.

**Earthwrite Recycled Pencils.**

**Fast-Drying Multi-Use Correction Fluid.**

**Plastic Coat Rack with 7 Hooks.**

**Shelf, End Right.**

24”x24”x65”, Avant Honey. Global. $573.30/EA Item No./ AKA: GLBA2465ESHR1. Symbols: . Additional Information: Adaptabilities provides the ultimate in flexibility and modularity. Designed to give you the freedom to create almost any configuration imaginable. Adaptabilities features a huge array of highly versatile component products which can be configured into multi-user workstations suitable for intensive task functions.

**900 Series Every-Day Swivel Task Chair.**


**Binder Portfolio with 1” Ring Binder.**

14-1/4”x2”x11-1/2”, Black Nappa Leather, Executive Impressions. EXI45680. $59.90/EA Item No./AKA: Symbols: (Key). Additional Information: Supple drum-dyed quality leather, adjustable shoulder
straps and padded retractable handles, multifaceted interior with pad holder, 1” capacity removable ring binder, one file pocket, two utility pockets, business/credit card holders and ID pocket.

**Pencil Cup.**
Punched Steel and Wire, Black. Stock #: ELD FG9E8800BLA. PRICE $8.40. QUANTITY EA. Express your unique style and taste with this contemporary pencil cup. The Expressions Punched Metal and Wire family is a unique combination, constructed of punched steel panels and durable wire framing. WEIGHT: 0.63

**Desktop Organizer.**
Letter, 12-5/6”x10”x2-3/4, Oak. Artistic Products LLC. Stock #: AOP 700. PRICE $9.42. QUANTITY EA. Letter size; 12-5/6”x10”x2-3/4. These premium desk trays give a sleek new look to a traditional favorite. Each piece is constructed of fine woodgrained laminate over pre-consumer recycled wood frames. Available in walnut and oak finishes.

**Laser Labels, Mailing.**
1”x2-5/8”, 3000 Ct, White. Avery Consumer Products. Stock #: AVE 05160. PRICE $20.99. QUANTITY BX Packaging: 3000 EA/BX. Brighter white labels for sharper print quality are perfect for creating professional-looking mailings, shipping, bar coding and organizing. Just click and create with Avery templates in more than 100 popular software programs. 8-1/2” x 11” sheets.

**Economy Mouse Pad.**
8-1/2"Wx9-1/2"D, Blue. Compucessory. Stock #: CCS 23605. PRICE $1.29. QUANTITY EA. Smooth cloth mouse pad provides excellent mouse tracking. Features a nonskid rubber base that grips and protects work surface.

**Wristrest.**

Non-Skid Base, 18-3/4"x4"x1/2", Gray. Compucessory. Stock #: CCS 23710. PRICE $3.99. QUANTITY EA. 18-3/4"x4"x1/2". These soft, padded wrist rests help to relieve stress and fatigue for those long hours at the keyboard.

**3-1/2" PC Formatted Diskettes.**

DS-HD, 1.44MB, 10/BX. Compucessory. Stock #: CCS 71010. PRICE $3.29. QUANTITY BX Packaging: 10 EA/BX. The 3 1/2" diskettes features 100 percent error-free certification to ensure reliability and quality performance. Convenient bulk package delivers high quality data storage at great low prices. IBM formatted to save time.
ACT II

The direction for ACT II is essentially the same as ACT I except in reverse. We begin in Rebecca’s studio apartment complete with “products” which slowly ascend through the ceiling until Rebecca is left alone on the stage. “Parallel Text B” offers the text of the products for the chorus, but other products could be added. Finally, she too is ascended and the stage is bare).

No problem. Uh-huh. That’s awful. When was this? Just like that? Um, then what? Right. Sure. Of course. Um, not at all. Uh-huh. Uh-huh. Sure. Not at all, uh, no. No, no problem. Uh-huh, I know what you mean. Uh-huh. Weren’t you, uh, angry? OK. It’s awful. I guess so. Um, I’m not sure—I think so. Yes, it’s fine. Oh man. You shouldn’t have, uh, done that. It is taking a long time. You didn’t, like, have a clue? It’s awful. You’re kidding. Uh-huh. Yeah, I do. Uh-huh. Do you have friends you can talk to? It’s ok, uh-huh. I guess. Uh, I don’t know, it’s complicated. No, not really. It’s fine. Uh-huh. How long were you together? Uh-huh. Yeah, sure. So, like, what happened? OK. No problem, no problem. I don’t know—it’s OK. Uh-huh. I’m sorry to hear that. No, it’s OK. (Pause). Does it? Um, I think you did. It’s OK. People tell me that. No problem. OK, I’m holding. Was that you? OK. All right. OK. That’s REBECCA T like “Teresa” SMITH. Uh, I’m not, um, giving you my credit card number. OK. Thanks. Yeah, it’s A-4-3-9-2-1. OK. OK, I got it. OK. I’ll look it over. (Laughs). OK. Uh-huh. I see. All right. Yes, I do. Um, why do you want to know? Yes I am. Um, all right I guess. Yes, that’s right. Is that for sure? OK. I’m not going to, um, commit to anything over the phone. OK. OK. Um, what about prime time? Does that, uh, include everything? I see. OK. OK. Hmmm. I’m not interested thanks. Not really. Um, OK. This is she. Hello.
AGNE Footrest.

Lotil Hand Cream.
$9.99. Called “The Miracle Worker”, this Lotil hand cream imported from England is regarded by many as the finest on the market. The first application will soothe and protect rough, chapped or cracked hands. Continued use insures the condition doesn’t return. 1 oz. tube.

Stacking Acrylic Shot Glasses.

Logitech IO Digital Notebook.
The io Digital Notebook from is an ideal match for the Logitech io or io2 Digital Writing Systems. This pack consists of three notebooks: charcoal, red, and silver each with 120 pages that allow for simultaneous use. Take notes, send emails and brainstorm more... Product Code: 5115. Price $6.95.
Burts Bees Beeswax Lip Balm.
$2.95. Burt’s most popular product, chocked full of pain relieving protective ingredients to help soothe cracked, chapped or burning lips. Available in the .3 oz, old-fashioned yellow tin or the newfangled. 15 oz. plastic tube (with 50% post-industrial recycled plastic).

SAMTID Floor/reading lamp.

Resipreme Sponge Holders.
You can’t keep your sink brush, sponge or steel-wool pad any closer to the action than this! Resipreme holders are clear, to coordinate with any kitchen decor, and attach without drilling or adhesives! Instead, a strong PowerLock suction cup holds each to any smooth surface just place suction cup against surface, and push down on the cam-operated accessory to create a strong vacuum; pull up to easily reposition. Drain holes. Use weekly. 12 fl. ozs. (12 uses). You get two.

SVANSBO Coffee table.
11 3/4". Height: 17 3/4". Length: 90 cm. Width: 30 cm. Height: 45 cm.

A Paper Life.

Women’s Rib-Knit Henleys.

iPod.
$299.00. 5.9 ounces, 2.4 x 4.1 x .63 inches. Includes Apple Earphones, AC Adapter, USB 2.0 cable.

Fiesta Hand Tufted Rug.
$600. Designer Emma Gardner. Exclusive to Design Within Reach. Certified and labeled by RUGMARK. Hand tufted, 100% pure New Zealand wool.
Get Behind Me Satan.

Avante 2-Slice Toaster.
$49.99. Item #: AVAN2SLT WC. Extra wide angled slots for easier and safer bread handling. Self adjusting slots allow even the toasting of all kinds of breads. New bagel feature to toast bagel interior without burning the exterior. Reheat setting, unique 2-position bread lift for easy toast or bagel removal. Safe-to-touch exterior and cancel button allows toast cycle to stop anytime. Electronic browning control (6 positions).

Tom’s of Maine Natural Anticavity Fluoride Toothpaste.
Sizes: 4 oz, 6 oz. WINTERMINT ONLY: 3.5 oz, 5.2 oz. Flavors: Cinnamint, Fennel, Gingermint Baking Soda, Peppermint Baking Soda, Spearmint, Wintermint. Made with effective ingredients, our toothpastes are flavored with natural oils for great taste. We include the active ingredient sodium monofluorophosphate, sourced from calcium fluoride to safely clean and help prevent cavities. And, as always, no artificial sweeteners (like saccharin), preservatives or dyes.

Degreaser Concentrate - All-Purpose Cleaner.
Concentrated to work hard: Dissolves grease in seconds - wherever grease build-up is a problem. $8.39
Silk Sash Capri Pants.
Silk sash slides through slanted belt loops. Faux back hip pocket. Three button accent on side seam hem slits. Front zipper. Hook and eye waistband closure with inside button. Inseam varies with size (size 6 = 26”). Linen, rayon, and spandex blend. Dry clean only. Made in the U.S.A. SKU 86508 Style# 341661024831. $89.00.

Batik Circles Pillow.
Featuring an outstanding one-of-a-kind circle design, this eye-catching creation is certain to become a topic of conversation. Use it to add extra color and comfort to a room. Made of cotton and polyester. A Pier 1 exclusive. (18 x 18”).

WiseWays - Herbal Moth Bars.
3 oz. Household Products Mists of Pleasure Laundry Freshener is a fragrant blend of essential oils to soak in a cotton cloth to toss into your washer or dryer load. Adds a sweet, fresh smell to your clothes and laundry room. Replenish the fragrance of the cloth with 2 capfuls of the oil from the small blue bottle every time you wash or dry clothes. Herbal Moth Bars Natural moth deterrent is completely non-toxic and replaces smelly chemical moth balls. $13.50.

Swedish Eggwhite Facial Soap.
An eggwhite facial, originally prepared by Swedish women in their homes, has been a weekly tradition for generations to maintain pure, glowing skin. $9.00.
**Sinktastic Strainer/Stopper.**
This stopper simply drops in place over your kitchen-sink drain or disposer to replace your current basket strainer. Twists open and closed easily (and you can see if it’s open or closed, unlike with flimsy, stem-bottom strainers)! Flexible thermoplastic comes in three colors (no boring gray here!) to match kitchen decor. Impregnated with an antibacterial agent to fight sink germs, and has a fresh-scent fragrance! You get two. Please specify white, almond, or blue (perfect for a stainless steel sink). $2.95.

**Million Dollar Baby.**

**Berkshire Toeless Hosiery.**
Product Description: Sheer Panty Hose with Control Top Hose without Toes! Behold, an incredible new idea in pantyhose: Our innovative Hose without Toes. Hose without Toes is a must for that sexy, open toe sandal. Show off your leg’s natural elegance with this ultra sheer hose and still wear that strappy sandal! So get a pedicure and get ready to achieve the newest and most glamorous look in hosiery! $6.95.

**Charmin Mega Roll Toilet Paper.**
Try our largest size—the Charmin® Mega Roll! With the Charmin Mega Roll, you’ll change the roll a lot less often than you did with Charmin regular rolls. That’s because it has the same number of sheets as four regular rolls combined—so it lasts longer. And with the Charmin Extender, the Mega Roll easily fits into most standard holders. $8.95.