

# **JEB AND THE BANK LOAN**

**By Stan Jankaitis**

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### CAST:

JEB  
CLEM (JEB's friend)  
BANK TELLER (female)  
BANK MANAGER

### PROPS

Several piles of play money  
a shovel

**SETTING:** Up in the mountain country. A background picture would be helpful.

*(JEB is a hillbilly who goes to a place HE's never been before to borrow money, a bank. Problem is the BANK TELLER thinks JEB is there to rob the bank.)*

### SCENE I

*(JEB is pacing back and forth. HE looks worried because HE does not have the money to buy the corn seed HE needs. CLEM enters scene.)*

CLEM: What 'cha say Jeb?

JEB: What? I say what Clem?

CLEM: I dunno. You look like you just lost your best fishin' pole.

JEB: Worse than that. I ain't got no money to buy corn seed fer the plantin'. Can you lend me some money?

CLEM: Wish I could, but I spent all my money on seed for myself.

JEB: Ahh heck, I'm skunked. No money. No seeds. No seeds. No corn. No corn. No corn moonshine. I'm skunked, Clem. Skunked. (*Spells "skunked"*) S-C, ahh, U-K-D. Skunked.

CLEM: Why don't you borrow the money, Jeb?

JEB: I just tried to borrow it. You said you ain't got none.

CLEM: Not from me...from the bank.

JEB: What's a bank?

CLEM: A bank is a place you go to when you wanna get a loan.

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JEB: If I wanna be alone, I'll just stay in the mountains.

CLEM: Not alone, Jeb, A LOAN.

JEB: What is the difference between alone and alone?

CLEM: You're talking about alone. I'm talking about a loan.

JEB: WHAT THE HECK IS THE DIFFERENCE? **(pause)** And how is being alone gonna get me the money? Is there some rascal who pays ya' for solitude.

CLEM: I'll try and explain it. Alone is when you're by yourself. Too ugly to get a woman...that's you. A loan from a bank is when the bank gives you money.

JEB: Ohhh. Now I see the difference in the similarity of the situation. **(pause)** But why would this thing called a bank give me money?

CLEM: Because that's why God made banks, to give people money. They is run by his chosen, you know.

JEB: The Jehovah Witnesses?

CLEM: No. Them chosen people from the old book. Noah and them guys. Look Jeb, just go down yonders to the bank, tell them you want money, and they'll give it to you.

JEB: I'm gonna do that, Clem. I'm goin' down yonders to that bank and get some money from Noah. That corn seed should have been in the ground four days ago. I can't be held up any longer. Good old Noah. I'm glad he was a good boat maker.

**Lights down. End of Scene I**

**SCENE II**

***SETTING: The local bank. The bank can consist of a couple of chairs and tables, perhaps a sign, and of course, some fake money, anything resembling a counter would be helpful.***

***(JEB enters the bank and walks up to a female TELLER. The bank MANAGER is in his office and is not seen. There is no one else in the bank.)***

TELLER: Can I help you, sir?

JEB: I don't know. You Noah?

TELLER: Do I know what, sir?

JEB: I dunno. Is this the place Clem told me to come to?

TELLER: This is a bank, sir.

JEB: Then this is the place he said to go. I'd like some money.

TELLER: Do you have an account with us?

JEB: A what?

TELLER: An account. Account.

JEB: Yeah I can count. One Mississippi, two Mississippi, three Mississippi, five. (**looks down, embarrassed**) I can only go up to ten Mississippi.

TELLER: Sir, what is it you want?

JEB: Money.

TELLER: Do you have an account with us?

JEB: One Mississippi, two Mississippi, three Mississippi, five...six Mississippi, seven Mississippi, eight Mississippi, five...

TELLER: Sir, I cannot assist you unless you tell me what it is you want. What do you want?

JEB: Money. I want money. That's why God made banks. So I can have the money. I'm kind of in a hurry here.

TELLER: (**stepping back, worried**) Is this a holdup?

JEB: Oh yeah. Big holdup. I needed to do this four days ago. I gotta dig a lot of holes. So if you just give me the money, I'll be on my way.

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