

Smoke Break

By

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## Cast of Characters

Jack White (or John Smith): Caucasian middle-aged man

Officer Brown (or Kai): A young Native-American woman

ACT I

Scene 1

Lights up. We are outside of ASU West or the Capitol Building. JACK stands outside in a suit, accessorized by a very ugly tie, smoking a cigarette and talking on a Bluetooth headset.

JACK

Then I said, check your contract buddy! That little paper you signed clearly states that all that money reverts to the corporation upon termination! You should have seen his face! I was like, sorry but them's the breaks *amigo*.

He pats himself down.

JACK

Ah damn, forgot my wallet upstairs. No, I was just gonna pick up some more smokes before I went back in. Huh? Oh yeah of course! And because corporate doesn't know anything about our little termination situation I get to "distribute" his funds as I see fit. Yeah, they'll *fit* into a nice little paycheck for me! Ha! Hm? Oh no, he was undocumented so he's not even on record. Besides, what's he gonna do about it? If he calls the cops, the SB-1070 police will arrest and deport his ass!

He flicks his cigarette butt.

JACK

Ah, I love this country.

OFFICER BROWN, in uniform, walks on as Jack flicks his cigarette past her. NOTE: The Officer is meant to portray a light/playful abuse of power, not rude or oppressive.

OFFICER BROWN

Excuse me sir, you can't do that--

JACK

Yeah, yeah, 20 feet from the door.

He moves away from her and continues his conversation.

JACK

Yeah, sorry about that. Hall Monitor Sanchez over here interrupted me. So what was I saying? Oh yeah, so this hot little receptionist we got--

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER BROWN

Excuse me sir, you can't--

JACK

What? I'm 20 feet from the door, I'm not loitering because I work here, and I'm on the phone.

He steps away again.

JACK

God, you put a cherry picker in a uniform and they never leave ya alone. Yeah, so this girl has the nicest set of--

OFFICER BROWN

I need to see some identification please.

JACK

What?

OFFICER BROWN

I'm writing you a citation and I need to see ID.

JACK

Hey, I'll call you back.

He clicks his Bluetooth off.

JACK

A citation for what? I'm not doing anything wrong.

OFFICER BROWN

Your little cigarette butt you so carelessly flicked over there will cost you quite a lot. 1) Tossing it on the ground like that is littering 2) because you didn't put it out, it is still smoking and within 20 feet of the entrance, 3) and since it is still lit I could call that attempted arson of a state building, but instead I'll charge you with public indecency instead.

JACK

Oh come on! And public indecency? I'm fully clothed.

OFFICER BROWN

Yeah, but have you seen your tie? That should be at least a class 5 fashion felony. Now I need to see some ID please.

JACK

Sure thing officer.

He pats himself down again.

JACK

Ah, I left my wallet in my office. Let me go get it.

He moves to leave

OFFICER BROWN

Not so fast. SB-1070 specifies that, in addition to any violation of federal law, such as littering, a person is guilty of trespassing if the person is a) present on any public or private land in the state and b) is not carrying his or her alien registration card. Which means...

JACK

I'm trespassing?! I work--

OFFICER BROWN

Ding-ding-ding! We have ourselves a real winner here folks. What's your name?

JACK

Jack White.

OFFICER BROWN

What are you?

JACK

What am I?

OFFICER BROWN

Yes, what is your country of origin?

JACK

I'm American.

OFFICER BROWN

Haha! No sir, you are not. I'm 100% Navajo--I'm American. So what are you?

JACK

I don't know. French or Eng--

OFFICER BROWN

Oh the French! Alright, we'll get you on the first boat back to France as soon as possible.

JACK

Wait, France? I live in Scottsdale!

OFFICER BROWN

Do you live alone?

JACK

No, I have a wife and kids. I can't leave them and go to France!

She speaks into her walkie.

OFFICER BROWN

I've got a possible lead on more illegal French immigrants in Scottsdale; over. Alright, let's go.

JACK

No, I'm not going anywhere.

OFFICER BROWN

Are you resisting arrest?

JACK

No, I've got rights!

OFFICER BROWN

Not since SB 1070 you don't.

She grabs his arms and puts them behind his back.

OFFICER BROWN

Sorry but them's the breaks, *Mon Ami*.

She pushes him off stage.

Blackout. End of play.