



*From us to you: 19 stories from leading playwrights for  
people across the UK to record*

## **FALLING**

**By Roy Williams**

Cast size: Any

This play is suitable for: One Person, Two Person, Group

## STEP 1: REHEARSE

- Make sure you have enough people for each part or maybe you could play multiple parts.
- Try to learn all your character's lines, if possible.
- If you're looking for some guidance, check out our [How To... videos](#). We've brought together a bunch of the best actors and directors to give you their tips and advice on how to make the best film you can.

## STEP 2: RECORD

- Use a phone to film your performance or record directly on your Zoom or video chat platform.
- Record your performance in well-lit spaces so we can see you clearly but avoid standing right in front of a window on sunny day, and remember to keep private items out of view.
- Try to cut out all background noise by closing windows and doors.

## STEP 3: UPLOAD

- We would love to see your performance. To upload your recording to us, click [here](#).
- Please **do not share** your recording on YouTube or other similar platforms. This is so we can keep all the recordings in the same place and to respect and honour our writers' copyright and publication permissions.
- We will be creating a film of each script from the videos submitted.
- We want this to be something everyone can take part in so please do get in touch if you have any access requirements or if there is anything else we might be able to help with.
- If you are having difficulty uploading your recording, please get in touch with us via email: [admin@theatre-centre.co.uk](mailto:admin@theatre-centre.co.uk) or phone: 020 7729 3066.

## HELP US SPREAD THE WORD

- Recommend to a friend by inviting those you know to rehearse, record and upload their own performance.
- Encourage others by using [#ImagiNation19](#) on your social platforms. State what play you have performed but remember to not share your recording publicly.
- Thank you for being part of ImagiNation.

*NOTE: This is a monologue. The responses by other characters that JERRY replies to in this scene do not have to be acted or read out by other people, (unless you want them to) They are merely a guideline for the actor playing Jerry to know what has been said to him. If you want other voices, I would recommend the other performers should be unseen when they speak; voices only.*

**LOCAL SUPERMARKET:**

*JERRY (any age) is on duty.*

JERRY: Excuse me, sorry to bother you, I know you are doing your shopping, but two metres apart please, social distancing yeah, that goes for here inside as well as it is outside. It's not fair on everyone else, who are waiting outside, well they are doing it, you can see, you were not doing it, two metres apart please?

*CUSTOMER 1: Right little Hitler aren't you?*

JERRY: Now, there is no need to say that, I am just doing my job.

*CUSTOMER 1: Well, it's hard for everyone*

JERRY: I know that, it is hard for me too. Excuse me madam, excuse me, one customer at a time.

*CUSTOMER 2: Oh, come on, you know me.*

JERRY: Yes, I know, you have been in here before, I always see you, you and your fella, the black man, you been coming in here for years.

*CUSTOMER 2: What does he being Black have anything to do with it?*

JERRY: It has nothing to do with it, I am just saying that I know you and your fella and that he is black. I don't see a problem. Here he is, hello mate, you keeping well?

*CUSTOMER 3: Yes, thanks.*

JERRY: As I was saying to your wife here..

*CUSTOMER 2: He's my partner, actually.*

JERRY:...sorry, partner, as much as I would like, as well as allow, I can't let you come in and shop together, It's one person only. Well that's the policy, one in, one out. I'm sorry, I don't make the rules.

One of you has to leave, it don't matter who. Thank you. (Calls) Next one in please? Next one in, unless you want to stay outside, it looks like it might rain, up to you. Yes Sir, how can I help?

*CUSTOMER 4 These bloody machine of yours!*

JERRY: Ok, there is no need to shout. I am standing two metres away, but I can still hear you? Now what's the trouble?

*CUSTOMER 4: The machine won't scan, it's not working.*

JERRY: The machine is working perfectly Sir, they are brand new, very simple to use. Just because you don't know what to do, that does mean it is broken Sir. No one else seems to be having a problem. If I may? You do kit like this.

*JERRY shows him how to scan by miming his hands.*

JERRY: The trick is, not to put the items right against it, give it an inch of space so the laser can properly read the bar code, like so. Would you like to try it? About an inch I said.

*CUSTOMER 4: I am doing it!*

JERRY: No, Sir, you are not, you are doing exactly what you did before. An inch away I said. *(He sees something)*Excuse me, you people in the aisle, that is not quite 2 metres apart is it? If you can't think of yourselves, can you at least try to think of other people?

*CUSTOMER 5: There is no need to be like that mate.*

JERRY: Yes, there is, there is a need to be like that. I don't like it any more than you. *(To customer 4)* Sir, an inch more! *(Back to Customer 5)* But we will never get out of this if we don't follow the rules, none of us. You may not like this, but we have got to have rules. That's it Sir. Well done.

*CUSTOMER 4: I don't think I like your tone.*

JERRY: My Tone? What tone? I was just trying to help you Sir? If I hadn't, you would be struggling all day with it. And as you can see, its only two staff members here, myself included and there is a queue waiting behind you to use the machines. Step back Sir? Please step back. I don't want anything from you, you don't want anything from me. Step back, please!

*CUSTOMER 4: You must really enjoy your job!*

JERRY: Yes Sir. I do enjoy my job. Sir, please, two metres apart!

*CUSTOMER 4: A right little Hitler! Fucking asshole*

JERRY: I don't think there is any need for that kind of language, but I can't help you if that is what you think. You don't know me Sir, you don't know me to make a statement like that but you carry on, you have a nice day Sir, thank you. Next. There is a machine here. Next! Card only! We would rather not handle cash madam, for obvious reasons.

*JERRY lets out a huge sigh.*

*CUSTOMER 3: You are doing a good job, mate.*

JERRY: Thank you, that means a lot, being nice cost nothing, right? We are in this together, or, so I thought. I didn't mean anything by it when I asked your wife to leave, sorry partner. But rules are rules, one person at a time. It works. It's got to work. This will go on otherwise. But thanks.

*CUSTOMER 3: You handled him quite well.*

JERRY: Oh, he was nothing, I have had to deal with worse people than him.

*CUSTOMER 6: Are these bags, still 10p each?*

JERRY: Yes Sir, they are, 10 pm, yes. No sorry, the bags have gone up, 20 pence now. Don't forget to scan them, otherwise the alarm will go off as you go out. *(To customer 3)* Some people, They think they know you, they really do. I know what they are thinking. I didn't do well at school? I didn't leave with much? This is the only job I could get? I have been here ever since? I could tell, from the minute he laid eyes on that is what he thought. And others. I've lost count. Never mind the fact I went to university. I Studied engineering. I received a 2.1 For my trouble. I have been around the world. I have taught Physics in a secondary school.

*CUSTOMER 3: Why are you not now?*

JERRY: I will tell you that, when I get to know you better. But I have stories. I did not find myself here, I am here because I wanted to be. He does not know me! He does not know my name; He does not know where I come from. He does not know I have a 70- year mother, living in a care home on the other side of London, who I haven't seen for 8 weeks, who at any sec could go... He does not know me. But thank you, I appreciate that. Have a good day. Tell your wife....partner, I'm sorry. See you. Next? Card only!

*CUSTOMER 7: I only have cash.*

JERRY: We would prefer not to handle cash, for obvious reasons madam, Sorry. Excuse me, you lot in the aisle? Not exactly 2 metres apart are you. Rules are rules....

*End.*

ImagiNation is a co-production between Theatre Centre and Theatre503

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