That’s Why He Came (*PREVIEW)*

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(*At a food bank; Kelsey is a volunteer. Julie is miming picking out food off the shelves to put in her bag, with a baby in a snugli in front of her – have her face the audience as if the shelves are between her and the audience, so we see all of the interaction. Kelsey approaches her, looking for a way to “connect”--Julie has no interest in connecting*)

Kelsey: Merry Christmas!

Julie: Yeah . . Merry Christmas . .

Kelsey: That is the cutest baby I’ve ever seen!

Julie: Thanks.

Kelsey: I love kids! Are you babysitting?

Julie: (*with a smirk*) No. I’m mothering.

Kelsey: (*embarrassed*) Oh. Right. (*Pause--unsure of what to say*) Well . . that is just the cutest baby I have ever seen.

Julie: Yeah, thanks.

Kelsey: I bet his daddy is in love with him!

Julie: Don’t know--he didn’t hang around to find out. Do you see any Similac?

Kelsey: Similac?

Julie: Yeah. Formula. You know--for the baby’s bottles?

Kelsey: Oh . . . no, I don’t see any . .

Julie: Figures. The one thing I really need . .

Kelsey: Oh! I wanted to give you this. (*all grins*) It’s a bookmark that says “Emmanuel”. We made them in youth group. (*Julie stares at her incredulously*) It’s a Christmas thing . . er, gift.

Julie: Great. Thanks. (*pointedly turns away and back to the shelves*)

Kelsey: (*feeling like she should be saying more*) See, we were talking about how Emmanuel was a name for Jesus and it means “God with us” . . .

Julie: Look, you gave me your cute little bookmark. You can go back to your happy life now.

Kelsey: But . .

Julie: (*angry*) I have food to get here so I can go back to my dinky apartment and figure out who else there is in my life that I can mooch childcare off of while I work my night shift at Target . . so I don’t lose my job and get kicked out of that dinky apartment by New Year’s! I *really* don‘t need to deal with some do-gooder, rich chick and her cheesy Church School craft! (*full of venom*) Don’t tell me God is with me!! If there *is* a God, he’s either cruel or useless, and in either case, I don’t need him hanging around!!

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