

# THE KING AND I

By Rod

*A person approaches a theatre ticket office to purchase a ticket. The ticket represents his 'ticket to heaven' bought for him by the king (Jesus). The ticket tout represents those who suggest other ways to heaven involving the buying of one's way in.*

## CAST

*Ticket buyer                      Male or female*

*Ticket seller                      Male or female*

Seller Can I help you, sir?

Buyer Yes, I hope so. I want a ticket for tonight's showing of 'The King and I'.

Seller Well, you've come to the right place. After all, this is the ticket office.

Buyer Quite. So you've got some left? I know it's late in the day and you may be sold out but ...

S *[Interrupting]* No, no, we've certainly still got tickets available, sir.

B I realise that you may only have the most expensive one's left but I am willing to pay top dollar.

S No problem, sir. In fact I've got your ticket right here

B My ticket? What do you mean my ticket ?

S Well it's got your name on it. *[Shows the ticket]* Joe Bloggs *[or suitable name]*, that's you isn't it, sir?

B Yes, it is. How strange. I don't recall telling you my name. And how did you know I was coming? I only popped in on the spur of the moment because a friend of mine said how good the show was.

S We were hoping you'd come.

B Were you?

S Oh yes, sir, very much.

B *[Surprised]* Oh. Well that's nice to know I suppose. How much is this ticket?

S It's free.

B Free! It must be a lousy seat if you're giving it away free. No wonder you want me to have it.

- S I can assure you that it's the best seat in the house.
- B I find that hard to believe. I spoke to a ticket tout on the way in. He said he had 'The best seat in the house' for £200. I thought that price was a bit steep but, as I said, I am willing to pay. I think I'll go back and find him. *[Turns to leave]*
- S I wouldn't do that if I were you, sir.
- B Why not?
- S His ticket won't get you in.
- B How come?
- S His tickets are all forgeries. There is only one place to get legitimate tickets and that's right here.
- B *[Thinking]* Okay, in that case I would like a ticket from you. But not one of those give away, up in the gods, behind the pillar jobs you were offering me earlier. I want the best seat you can find.
- S I think you will find the one I showed you is the very best seat in the house, sir. It's in the Royal Box.
- B The Royal Box?
- S Yes, sir.
- B I think you must be confusing me with someone else. I realise I have an aristocratic bearing *[Be imaginative here, depending on the actor involved]* but I'm not actually a member of the Royal Family.
- S You will be if you take this ticket.
- B Eh?
- S Look at the ticket, sir, and read what it says. *[Hands him the ticket]*
- B *[Reading]* "Joe Bloggs *[Or other name as before]* is now a member of my family and should be admitted to the Royal Box free of charge. Signed – the King". You mean the King has set this ticket aside especially for me.
- S Yes, and he has paid for it himself - at great personal expense.
- B That's amazing!
- S You see, sir, he is very very keen that you should come to the show.

B Is he?

S Well it is called "The King and I".

B "The King and I"? *[Then penny drops. Speaking slowly.]* Ah, you mean, the King *[Points upwards]* and I *[Points to himself]*? Wow! That is amazing.

*THE END*