

## Re: Errors when reading a file in Bourne shell -- HELP

*Source:* <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.unix.questions/2003-07/0349.html>

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*From:* SK ([soundars\\_at\\_ecs.csus.edu](mailto:soundars_at_ecs.csus.edu))

*Date:* 07/27/03

Date: 26 Jul 2003 17:36:13 -0700

Hi,

Thanks a ton for your response... I am trying to exit out of the script from inside the do while and when I do an exit it exits only the do while and not the shell itself. I rewrote the code like this

```
(
while read server
do
    set ${server}
    SERVER=$1
    export SERVER

    SERVER_NAME=$2
    export SERVER_NAME

    TIMEOUT=$3
    export TIMEOUT

## I am checking the processes for a server from the $(ENV)

SERVER_STATE=`ps -elf|grep
${ENV}|grep"Server.Name=${SERVER_NAME}"|grep -v grep`

## If I dont do the ps in a separate variable it gives me an error in
the test statement saying "test argument expected".

    if test -n "$SERVER_STATE"
    then
        ERROR_FLAG=1
        EXIT_STATUS=1
        echo "Server already present..."
        echo "Exiting ..."

## the exit below is only exiting out of the while do but not the
whole shell script. Since it didnt do it, I am setting the EXIT_FLAG
```

to 1 and checking it after the loop.

```
        exit
    else
        EXIT_STATUS=2
    fi
# this is just to test my exit_status

    echo " here i am: $EXIT_STATUS "
done
)< ${SERVER_INPUT_LISTING}

echo " here i am: $EXIT_STATUS"
```

# now I check the status of \$EXIT\_STATUS from the loop above to find out whether I need to continue or exit out of the script... but the values for the \$EXIT\_STATUS seems to be lost outside the loop... It shows that it does not have any value... and if I declare it globally to be 0, it shows 0.

```
if [$EXIT_STATUS -eq 1]
then
    exit
fi
```

I think you are right about my shell...

> *You are probably using a Bourne shell which runs a loop with  
> redirected stdin in a subshell; therefore changes within the loop  
> cannot affect the script outside the loop.*

Is there anyway to get around this problem of redirected stdin ?. I am using a Tru64 machine with OSF1 version 5.1 sp3(patch kit 3). Is it a problem with the shell itself?

Thanks,  
- SK

"Chris F.A. Johnson" <c.f.a.johnson@rogers.com> wrote in message  
news:<bfsbdq\$ij2io\$2@ID-136730.news.uni-berlin.de>...

> *On Fri, 25 Jul 2003 at 21:40 GMT, SK wrote:*

> > *Hi*

> >

> > *I am trying to write a script to check the status of servers in the  
> > network and i wanted to enter the names into a file for future use. So  
> > I use the echo command as given below to redirect the values.*

> >

> > *echo SERVER SERVER\_NAME TIMEOUT\_VALUE > \${SERVER\_INPUT\_LISTING}*

> >

> > *In the script given below, I try to read back from the file and set  
> > the status flags according to the values read from the file and  
> > processing it. So when I used while-do for reading the file, the flags*

> > *that i set inside the loop are not visible outside the loop.*  
> >  
> > *In the script below, the value of \$EXIT\_STATUS doesnt get displayed*  
> > *outside the loop. After I run the script, the first "Here I am" prints*  
> > *1 or 2 but the second "here I am doesnt print anything.*  
> >  
> > >  
> > *Someone please help me clarify this prblem... your help will be very*  
> > *much appreciated...*  
>  
> *You are probably using a Bourne shell which runs a loop with*  
> *redirected stdin in a subshell; therefore changes within the loop*  
> *cannot affect the script outside the loop.*  
>  
> *You can get around this by enclosing the whole thing in braces and*  
> *doing the redirection outside them:*  
>  
> {  
> *while read SERVER SERVER\_NAME TIMEOUT*  
> *do*  
> *.....*  
> *done*  
> *echo " here i am: \$EXIT\_STATUS"*  
> } < \${SERVER\_INPUT\_LISTING}