

Mock Sides: Original Scripts for Workshop Actors

HER PRESENTS

Written by

David Dalton

Pages: 2

Comedy - Female, 50s

Synopsis:

Anne rudely takes over her daughter-in-law's home as she waits for her son to come home for his birthday dinner.

**From the dramatic 2 women scene titled, "Her Presence"*

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Anne rudely takes over her daughter-in-law's home as she waits for her son to come home for his birthday dinner.

Anne is dusting off small figurines.

ANNE

Hi Sara. Oh... I see you picked up groceries? I'm sorry dear, I didn't think you would have time to cook. I've already started dinner. Yes, I'm making Jason's favorite; pot roast. Well, it was his favorite until he got married, anyway. You can just put all that away for another time.

(pause)

Oh my, so many little circles under these little figurines. I hope you don't mind, I separated the collectables from the cheaper ones. I'm putting the Hummels I bought you for your wedding on top, so they're under the light.

(beat)

Oh, I got Jason a fun little birthday present. I found a the cutest set of boxer briefs. They have motivational sayings for each day of the week. He'll get a kick out them, I'm sure. So, what are you getting him for his birthday?

(pause)

Yes, he mentioned you were going the cabin for the weekend, but what are you getting him for a present? Your time?

(pause)

What do you mean, your time? That's a little anti-climactic, don't you think? Well, I suppose if he doesn't get to see you that often, spending time with you might be a treat, but it's not really a present. I mean... he is your husband... and it's his birthday. Everyone gets presents on their birthday.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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ANNE (CONT'D)

They should have something tangible, you know, something they can get excited over when they unwrap it.

(feigns laugh)

No dear, I meant something new. Something useful, something fun.

(beat)

By the way, this little brass clock your mother gave you isn't working. I tried to wind it up, but I couldn't figure it out. Maybe it just needs batteries. Oh well, it's nice and clean anyway.

(pause)

So doesn't Jason buy you presents? No? Oh... Well, I suppose if this is some kind of new tradition, I guess it would make sense... I mean, if it's just you and Jason... but you know that will change when you have kids, right?

(beat)

Oh... I didn't know you were waiting to have kids... Well, that's a relief, I thought maybe you were having some problems with your plumbing. That's too bad. I guess I can wait a little longer.

(continues to dust)

My goodness, looks like this room has been seriously neglected for a while. No sweetie, it's no problem. I know you've been busy, I just thought I would help out. Make myself useful in some way...

(beat)

Relax? I am relaxed...

(beat)

Okay. Fine. I'll just go in the kitchen and watch the pot roast cook... through that dirty little oven window. Don't worry, I won't fuss over it. I'll just have some coffee and wait until it's done.

(pause)

No, I don't mind. I just wanted Jason to come home to nice clean house and a home-cooked dinner for a change. No fussing, no worries.

She let's out a sigh and exits.