

AN UNEXPECTED GIFT

by DANIEL J. COOK

GENRE: Comedy/Light Drama

SYNOPSIS: Two young girls grow suspicious when they find an unexpected gift from their father.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: If older actresses are used to play the roles of the sisters, be certain that their dress and mannerisms reflect those of young girls to make their relationship with the father clear and the comedy most effective.

TIME: Over 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 3

TOPIC: Youth, Salvation

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: John 3:16

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service

CHARACTERS:

SARAH (little sister)

RACHEL (big sister)

FATHER

PROPS: Table, gift box with light inside, envelope with card inside

COSTUMES: Modern dress. Girls in pajamas or long nightshirts. Father in casual dress.

SOUND: Three wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Interior of home

Drama Ministry

service@DramaMinistry.com
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At lights up, there is a table onstage. On the table is a gift box with a card next to it. SARAH enters wearing pajamas. She is obviously still waking up. She sleepily passes by the box, and then stops. She turns around to see if there is really a box there.

She goes behind the table and pokes at the box. She looks around to make sure no one is watching and opens the box. As she looks into the box, her eyes go wide. She gasps and runs off stage left. She re-enters, dragging RACHEL.

RACHEL: I swear. This had better be important, or you're dead, Sarah.

SARAH: I promise, Rachel, this is important. I don't know where it came from. *(Drags her to the box)* Look!

RACHEL: It's a box. I've seen one of those. I'm going back to bed.

SARAH: Look in the box! You won't believe it!

RACHEL: *(She goes to the box and opens it. Her eyes go wide.)* Do you know what this is?

SARAH: Yeah. Where did it come from?

RACHEL: *(Sees the card on the table)* Didn't you read the card?

SARAH: No.

RACHEL: Didn't I teach you anything? *(Starts to open card)* Open the card first. There may be money. Besides, this may not be for us.

SARAH: It has to be for us. It's exactly what we want. Who else could it be for?

RACHEL: We should read the card anyway.

SARAH: So read it! *(RACHEL starts to read the card silently to herself.)* Out loud!

RACHEL: Dear Sarah and Rachel, I wanted to get you this gift because I love you both so much. I know you've both wanted this for a long time and it will last forever. Just remember to share it with your friends. Love, Dad.

SARAH: Told you it was for us!

RACHEL: Sarah, we can't take this.

SARAH: Are you crazy? Why not?

RACHEL: Is it your birthday? Or mine?

SARAH: No, but ...