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PREVIEW: DEFINING MOMENTS

By

Andrew Kooman

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Cast of Characters

Joseph: at seventeen
Becky: at eighteen

Synopsis

Joseph and Becky, two students in their first year at Bible College, start to fall for each other. As their relationship gets more serious, they start to delve into their personal histories, and the silly, often funny things from childhood that left their mark.

Set

A quiet park

When

The Present.

Note

The following scene is taken from the one act play ***Heel Joseph Heal*** by **Andrew Kooman** and is a great script for workshops and auditions.

Act 1

Scene 1

Becky and Joseph are on a park bench. Becky's head rests in Joseph's lap as she looks up at the sky. There's a street lamp in the distance behind them, unlit.

Becky

There's no way. I don't believe you!

Joseph

It's true.

Becky

What kind of teacher would do that?

Joseph

I'm serious, Becky.

Becky

You're embellishing the story.

Joseph

Not one bit.

Becky

I'm on to you, you know.

Joseph

It was a defining moment in my life.

Becky

I’m sure it was.

Joseph

She was my favourite teacher, and all those pictures I had drawn her during recess while all the other kids were outside hanging upside down on the monkey bars – half a year’s worth of artistic imagination was at the bottom of her waste bin!

Becky

And she didn’t even try to hide it?

Joseph

Nope.

Becky

She didn’t cover them with Kleenex or a couple of orange peels?

Joseph

I’m telling you.

Becky

Just sitting there.

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Becky

[*Shyly*] A pony. I crawled around on my arms and legs like one everywhere I went. I wanted to be one so badly.

Joseph

You scared me for a second.

Becky

[*Giggling*] Let’s just say I had a pretty active imagination.

Joseph

Me too.

Becky

I was being a pony at my Grandma’s, kicking around her house and I got a little out of control.

Joseph

What happened?

Becky

I kicked her book shelf and this beautiful porcelain figurine that she inherited from her mother, who inherited it from her mother and so on all the way back to the Middle Ages, crashed to the floor, just shattered right in pieces.

Joseph

Shoot.

Becky

She was in the room in seconds, after she heard the crash. Somehow she got there with her walker and fake hip and oxygen tank and – and *everything*! I'd been warned my whole life about running around her house and breaking things.

Joseph

"Weren't we all?"

Becky

You're funny.

Joseph

Thanks.

Becky

I can remember the look on her face, to this day. She looked at me and shook her head and she said, in this deadpan voice, like it was a fact, in the same way she would say, "The world is round," or "We're having cabbage rolls for dinner" she looked at me and said, "You were a mistake!"

Joseph

Zing.

Becky

And that was it. Right into my heart. Shattered it into more pieces than her precious heirloom. And I know she didn't really mean it -

Joseph

But she said it.

Becky

Exactly. And by the time the pieces were swept up and put in the garbage, it was like I was suddenly another person.

Joseph

You never brought it up with her, I mean, later on?

Becky

No.

Joseph

Why not?

Becky

Because it was like this thing that never happened. I don’t think she even realized she ever said it! It just didn’t match her personality. She was always so nice to me. Loving. But even so, those words were always with me in the back of my mind when I was around her. And I knew if she knew that… that those words she probably wouldn't even remember saying hurt me so deeply, it would have broken her heart. So I never brought it up.

Joseph

People do strange things.

End scene.



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