

A script from



“Hearts Adorned with Wonder”

by
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- What** It’s Christmas Eve and Janelle finds her mom squinting at the Christmas tree, stealing a quiet moment in the busy season. Over a cup of hot chocolate, the women reflect on the importance of literally stopping everything to ensure they don’t miss the true wonder of Christmas.
Themes: Christmas, Christmas Eve, Wonder, Family, Joy
- Who** Sandy, a mom in her 50s
Janelle, her daughter in mid-twenties
- When** Present, Christmas Eve
- Wear (Props)** Sandy wears a tacky Christmas sweater, Janelle is in a pajamas and a sleep robe. There’s a decorated Christmas tree with presents. A couch or pair of living room chairs and mugs for hot chocolate.
- Why** Luke 2:11-19
- How** Keep the dialogue conversational and the pacing up. It should feel like a very natural conversation between a mother and daughter.
- Time** Approximately 3 minutes

Sandy has her feet up with a mug of hot chocolate. She's hugging the mug to her chest, absorbing its warmth as she squints at the Christmas tree lights. Janelle enters.

Janelle: I knew I'd find you here.

Sandy: You did?

Janelle: And I knew you'd be wearing that terrible Christmas sweater.

Sandy: Some traditions just don't die.

Sandy hands Janelle a mug of hot chocolate that's on the coffee table.

Sandy: And I knew that you'd join me.

Janelle: Thanks mom.

Sandy: Are they both asleep?

Janelle: Rick *and* the baby.

Sandy: Your dad is too. His first Christmas as a grandpa. I don't know if he'll survive tomorrow.

They giggle.

Janelle: Is it always this tiring? I think I understand now why I always found you late on Christmas Eve here with your feet up.

Sandy: It's the quietest time of the season. The holiest. Having a little baby around at Christmas makes the story of Jesus real in a new way, doesn't it?

Janelle: Did Mary go through as many diapers as we do?

Sandy: Probably. The real question is, *were they disposables?*

Janelle: There's part of the Christmas story you don't hear about too often.

Sandy: I love how Luke makes a note in his telling of the Christmas story how Mary "treasured up" everything and pondered it all in her heart. What the angel said. What the wise men did. How the shepherds came in their stunned state of worship after seeing the host of angels.

Janelle: Mary's first Christmas must have been a busy couple of days! That reminds me: I was going to ask you for some survival tips for the future.

Sandy: Well, that's just it. Don't think about the future.

Janelle: No?

Sandy: No. Not the turkey dinner tomorrow, definitely no New Years resolutions or diet plans. Just take this moment and take in the wonder of the present. Ponder it all in your heart.

Janelle: Honestly, I haven't even thought about the miracle of Christmas yet. It's easy to miss in all the hoopla: shopping, all the staff events at Rick's school, parties, friends, even the activities at church. It's all good, but I feel tired to the bone.

Sandy: That's why I sit here, put my feet up and squint my eyes at the tree lights.

Janelle: You did that, all the years as we grew up.

Sandy: Many of them.

Janelle: What do you think about?

Sandy: Whenever I look at the tree with all the colorful things we decorated it with, all our nice ornaments with each special meaning for different seasons of our lives, I can't help but remember that in a different way, God placed what was most precious to him on a tree too. Love for all to see.

Janelle: Huh. I've never thought about that by looking at a Christmas tree. It is such a holy time and it's like if you blink you'll miss it.

Sandy: That's why I squint. And take a deep breath and just adorn my heart in wonder.

Janelle: Hmm. I like that.

She takes in a deep breath.

Janelle: Well here's to taking time to ponder what Christmas is all about. Here's to adorning our hearts in wonder!

She raises her mug. Sandy clinks her mug with Janelle's mug.

Sandy: To adorning our hearts with wonder.

End of play.