

A script from



“In the Nick of Time”

by

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- What** Distracted by the demands of work and children, Jason and Beth have become more like roommates than lovers. The play begins when their predictable schedules are turned upside down by a VERY unexpected pregnancy. Themes: Marriage, Parents, Christmas, God’s Plan, Trust, Faith, Endurance
- Who** Beth
 Jason
- When** Over the course of 5-6 years
- Wear
(Props)** The set for this play can be as simple or as elaborate as you choose. Because the actors spend the majority of the time on the phone at work, you will need two different areas that represent their workspaces. You will also need a third area to represent home and a fourth area that represents the audience of their child’s Christmas play.
- Why** Ephesians 5:22-23
- How** See end of script
- Time** Approximately 16 minutes

Beth is on one end and **Jason** on the other end of the stage.

- Jason:** *(Phone rings, on laptop, in work attire)* Hey.
- Beth:** *(Nervously doodling on a notepad, in work attire)* Hey. What are you doing?
- Jason:** Working. What are you doing?
- Beth:** Working. *(Pause)*
- Jason:** What time are you leaving work tonight?
- Beth:** Probably not till 9:00 or 10:00?
- Jason:** But Jill's soccer game is at 7:00.
- Beth:** I told you that you were going to have to take her, because I am going to be working late tonight.
- Jason:** I might not have time to come home before the game.
- Beth:** I asked you last night if you could take her and you said "yes."
- Jason:** Okay. I'll figure it out.
- Beth:** Hey, listen . . .
- Jason:** *(Phone beeps)* Hey, can you hold on for two seconds? I have been missing this guy all day.
- Beth:** Yeah.
- Jason:** Hey Blake. *(Pause)* No. Susan said she couldn't get us the estimates Friday. *(Pause; frustrated)* She said she could have them Monday morning. *(Pause)* Okay, okay. I get it. I get it. Forget it. I'll figure it out. *(Pause)* Listen man, I've got Beth on the other line. *(Pause)* I'll get it done. Bye. *(Clicks back over)* Sorry.

Beth, during the call, has now started working on her laptop

- Beth:** It's okay, but listen, it may be nothing, but I am a little worried . . . *(Her phone beeps)* hold on, it's Jessica. She's not supposed to use her cell phone at school. Let me see if there's something wrong, hold on . . .
- (Clicks over)* Hey Sweetie, you okay? *(Pause)* Jessica, the answer is still no and you are not supposed to be using your phone at school. *(Pause)*

Until I meet her parents, *(Pause)* you are not spending the night with her. *(Pause)* I'm done discussing this with you. You need to get off your phone. *(Covers the phone, speaking to someone who has walked into the office)* Yes, thanks, I will be there in two minutes. *(Back to Jessica)* Okay. *(Pause)* Jessica, I heard every word you said. I fully understand you think my goal in life is to ruin yours. *(Singsong)* I love you. Study hard. Goodbye. *(Clicks over)* Hey . . .

Jason: Everything okay?

Beth: No. But what are you going to do—she's 12 . . .

Jason: . . . and she's a girl. Hey, I've got to finish this before I leave.

Beth: Hey, can we talk when we get home?

Jason: What did I do?

Beth: What do you mean?

Jason: Because when you say we need to talk, that means I've done something.

Beth: That's not true. We just need to talk tonight.

Jason: About what? Just tell me.

Beth: I don't want to get into it right now.

Jason: You can't say we need to talk about something, and then say you don't want to get into it right now.

Beth: I do not want to talk about this on the phone.

Jason: You know work is completely stressing me out right now. Don't add this on top of it.

Beth: I just said I want to talk later.

Jason: And I said I want to talk now.

Beth: Fine. I think I'm pregnant.

Jason: *(Sits/falls onto desk, etc., long pause)*

Beth: Jason?

Jason: *(Nothing)*

- Beth:** Jason?
- Jason:** Are you sure?
- Beth:** No, not completely. I haven't taken a pregnancy test yet.
- Jason:** If you don't know for sure, then why would you call and risk killing me?
- Beth:** You are so dramatic.
- Jason:** You call my office after 74 years of marriage and tell me you are pregnant. And I'm the dramatic one.
- Beth:** I said I might be pregnant
- Jason:** Beth, our kids are 10 and 12.
- Beth:** I know this. How did this happen?
- Jason:** You know that thing we do quarterly? I'm pretty sure that is what caused it.
- Beth:** *(Hurt)* That's just mean.
- Jason:** It's the Immaculate Conception. Just in time for Christmas.
- Beth:** I am getting off the phone now. I'll see you at the ballpark.
- Jason:** Wait. Cut me a break here. This is not exactly stellar news.
- Beth:** Jason. I'm getting off the phone now. *(Hangs up the phone)*
- Jason:** Beth? Beth? *(Slams down the phone)*

The next morning . . . (Title Slide)

- Beth:** Hello?
- Jason:** Hey.
- Beth:** Hey.
- Jason:** *(Picks up the phone)* Are you still mad at me? You barely said two words when we got home from the game.
- Beth:** Jason. *(Pause)* It's for sure. I'm pregnant.

- Jason:** *(Silently demonstrative—good place for visual humor)*
- Beth:** Jason?
- Jason:** *(Trying to be more kind than before)* Yeah, I'm here. Did you take a pregnancy test?
- Beth:** Yes, this morning. *(Jason interrupts)*
- Jason:** But those things can be wrong, right? You hear about those things being wrong all the time . . .
- Beth:** Five of those things can't be wrong. I took a generic one, I took a cheap one, I took an expensive one, and I took one where someone comes to your house and slaps you in the face.
- Jason:** So this is for real, huh?
- Beth:** Yes, this is for real. Did you think that I was making this up?
- Jason:** No. I guess I was just hoping that this was a false alarm. We were through having kids. Having another kid is just difficult for me to get my head around. This changes everything. We barely have time to say "hi" to each other as it is. I don't know how we can afford to have another kid. Not to mention that by the time this kid graduates, I'm going to be older than dirt.
- Beth:** Graduates? I'm so old now people won't think I'm pregnant, they'll just think I'm fat in a really odd way. Jason, are you going to be OK?
- Jason:** Yeah. I just need to get back to work.
- Beth:** OK, bye.
- Jason:** A baby. What in the world?

***To read the rest of this script and perform it, download the full version at
SkitGuys.com!***

ENDING:

5 years later... (Title Slide)

Lights up. **Beth** is sitting facing the audience. **Jason** is upstage behind her looking for her. They are at their child's Christmas play.

Jason: Where are you?

Beth: I'm toward the front.

Jason: I can't see you. Raise your hand.

Beth: I can't. It's about to start. I'm in the fourth row from the front, six seats from the left.

Jason: You count really well, even in the dark. Are you stage left or real left?

Beth: Listen at you with your stage left.

Jason: I'm a stage Dad. I see you. *(He sits by her)*

Beth: I think he's nervous.

Jason: He can't be. Did you tell him that he knew his lines backwards and forwards . . . and that it was going to be okay . . . and that he was the best actor in the history of acting?

Beth: Not in those exact words, but he is okay. Why are we still talking on our phones?

Jason: Cause it's cool. Talk again.

Beth: Talk again.

Jason: You look like you are in a Japanese movie.

Beth: It's starting. Turn it off. Here he comes.

Jason: Oh, there he is. He looks so nervous.

Beth: I know, but he is going to be great.

Jason: He'll be perfect, just perfect.

Beth: This is perfect, isn't it?

Jason: Yeah, it is, unexpectedly perfect. I love you—a lot.

Beth: I love you a lot.

Jason: You OK?

Beth: Yeah, I have just been a little bit queasy all day. I'm sure it's nothing.

THE END (Title Slide)

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

The sketch is dependent on the actors playing their roles in a subtle and realistic manner.

Beth and Jason are not antagonistic toward one another. Distracted by the demands of work and children, they have become more like roommates than lovers. The sketch begins when their predictable schedules are turned upside down by a very unexpected pregnancy.

Each scene should provide the audience with a varying array of emotions and responses. Yet, throughout the scenes, the audience should see a couple slowly being brought together by this unexpected baby in a way they would not have experienced without him.

*It might be helpful to view the In the Nick of Time video provided in the Video Folder. Please note: This video is provided as a helpful tool for the actors and the director. The quality is not suitable or authorized for public viewing. All rights reserved.

Production Notes:

Stage lights, background music, and *title slides are key to the success of this script. Simultaneously, stage lights should go black as music beds under each title slide. This will serve to introduce, transition, and conclude each scene.

*Title slides are provided in the Graphics Folder of this downloadable event.