

A script from



"The Thanksgiving Fairy"

by
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What Rick and Toodie Narraway (*Ask for Directions*) learn to give thanks "in all things." Great illustration for a Thanksgiving message/discussion.

Themes: Comedy, Duo, Thanksgiving, Gratitude, Trust, Relationships, Laundry

Who Toodie (Gertrude) – Any age or ethnicity.
Earnest and loving, with a sarcastic streak.

When Present day

**Wear
(Props)** Casual clothes. Several baskets of laundry (see note under How below*)

Why I Thessalonians 5:18; Psalm 100:4; 2 Corinthians 4:15-16

How *Style:* the style is *sit-com*. Rick and Toodie banter, but have an earnest, loving relationship with one another and with God.

Staging: It is recommended that the actors face outward. To that end: *Dryers may be pantomimed or—if you have an avid prop maker in your midst—represented by framed outlines.

Time Approximately 6 minutes

Toodie, laundry baskets beside her, sits on a row of chairs facing audience, thumbing through her Bible. **Rick** enters with a plastic cup full of coins.

Toodie: (To **Rick**) I put the last wash load in #22 next to the guy with the pierced...(looks off)...everything, and the pet...(looks off again)...alien. Did you get quarters for the dryers?

Rick: Yep, twenty dollars. Should be enough for another...(looks at dryers in front of them)...fifteen minutes? Sheesh. Hey, our marriage outlasted our washer and dryer!

Toodie: What are the odds?

Rick: Of our marriage lasting?

Toodie: No! (Punches him in the arm) Of our washer and dryer both dying within two days of each other!

Rick: Actually, I think it's kind of touching.

Toodie: Touching?

Rick: Uh-huh, like when old couples die so close together because they can't bear to live without each other.

Toodie glares at **Rick**. He punches himself in the arm.

Toodie: And the day before Thanksgiving!" I've got to cook a turkey. Plus I promised to bake—

Rick: Lemon bars? If you make lemon bars, I'll give you all the quarters in this cup! And I'll vacuum the whole house, even though it's already spotless.

Toodie: When you wait until you can actually see dirt—like you and your college roommate did—it's too late. Then the EPA shows up in haz-mat suits!

Rick: Aw, that was just you and Ellen Stieglitz. Sure freaked me out, though! Where'd you guys get those suits?

Toodie: I'll never tell. I may need 'em again. (Looks at dryers. Looks at her Bible. Sighs.) The Bible says, "In everything give thanks," Rick. How are we supposed to give thanks for this? (Gestures around her)

Rick: Well—

Toodie: I think this one's ready. (Opens or pantomimes dryer door, begins pulling out clothes and tossing them in basket)

Rick: Time to employ my legendary folding skills.

Toodie: Right. You unload. I'll fold.

Rick pulls a fabric softener sheet out of a pair of boxer shorts. Chuckles.

Rick: You owe me a buck.

Toodie: What? *(See the softener sheet—realizes what he means)*

Both: *(In unison)* The Dryer Fairy!

Toodie: I totally forgot about that! Remember?

Rick: When Megan and Farley made up the Dryer Fairy? Yep! Every time they found one of these in their socks or shirts—

Toodie: It was because the Dryer Fairy put it there, and we were supposed to give 'em a dollar. Little scam artists!

Rick: Only, when we said no they started giving each other a buck out of their own allowance.

Toodie: Yeah. How cute was that?

Rick: Major cute. I mean, they fight all the time but—

Toodie: But they really love each other. And you can't buy that. I mean, they really are becoming their own people, Rick!

Rick: Yep. But you did a lot, Mama Bear.

They clasp hands, lean in for a possible kiss.

Toodie: Well, so did you, Papa B— *(Suddenly breaking away)* OK, getting mushy at the laundromat—not gonna happen.

Rick: Hey, when the Dryer Fairy strikes, you gotta roll with it.

Toodie: I better go check on that last wash load.

Toodie walks off. Rick starts to fold. Finds another softener sheet.

Rick: Whoa! *(Doing Sesame Street's The Count voice)* Two dryer sheets—two! *(Folds a couple more items)*

Toodie comes back with a basketful of laundry.

Toodie: Our machine stopped.

Rick: Uh-oh...

Toodie: But that pierced guy was finished and still had time on his machine...so he put our load in his washer. He...he was really sweet, Rick...and he said "God bless you."

Rick: *(Grinning)* So you're saying the pierced guy is really hole-y?

Toodie: *(Groans)* Seriously, I mean, what if he's an angel in disguise or something? Even his...dog-thing is kind of sweet.

Rick: Looks like you're being "thankful for everything" here, babe.

Toodie: Kind of. But it's "in" everything, babe, not "for" everything. I mean, I'm not thankful for this *(referring to their circumstances)*.

Rick: Well, the Bible says we have to be "in the laundromat, not of it."

Toodie: *(Going on)* But I *am* thankful for Pierced Guy, and for our kids, and for you.

Rick: That our marriage has outlasted our washer and dryer?

Toodie: Yeah. And that God loves me despite my ratty attitude.

Rick: Hey, 80% of gratitude is attitude.

Toodie: And the rest is "grrr." That's the part I was focusing on. Did you just make that up?

Rick: Maybe? *(Realization)* Hey, look at us, being all thankful and everything—right before Thanksgiving!

Toodie: *(Smiling)* We are, aren't we? *(Looking up, jokey but sincere)* Thank you for sending the Dryer Fairy, Lord. And for a whole—

Rick: Laundry list?

Toodie --of other stuff. Yeah. *(Chuckles)*

Lights out