

Title: The Wunder of You

By: Sally Bartley

Director: **Natahnee Veitch**

Genre: Comedy/Drama

Synopsis:

Jane worries about her brother Tommy. His life has been spiralling out of control and she's doing everything she can to get it back on track. They've had a day of "cleaning up" and she just wants to relax with a glass of wine, but Tommy has other ideas.

Characters – (2 actors)

Jane – female (30 – 40)

Tom – male (5 years younger than Jane)

Setting A lounge..

Running time: 10 minutes

The Wunder Of You

Tom Still, they make a cute couple.

Jane Tell that to his fiancé.

Silence

Tom You know you're my best friend, right?

Jane Am I? That's kind of sad.

He punches her lightly on the arm, and they both chuckle.

Tom Mean, mean, mean.

Jane I'm your sister. I can't be your best friend as well.

Tom Well, you are. I think you're wonderful with a "u".

Standing and stepping away from him.

Jane Ok. As long as you realise that I actually have other friends.

Tom Mmmm.

Pause. Jane turns back to him.

Jane You need to make your own friends. Invite people over – you can now.

Tom Why couldn't I before?

Jane Oh Tommy, they couldn't have even got in the front door, let alone sit anywhere. Let alone eat anything.

Tom I think you're exaggerating.

Jane You know I'm right.

Silence

Tom Who could I invite over?

Jane What about Miriam? She's your friend, isn't she?

Tom I suppose. But she's such a gossip.....You could come too.

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Jane If you say so.

Pause

Are you ok?

Tom *(Looking anxiously offstage)* I just wonder what's going to happen to them.

Jane Does it matter?

Tom It does to me.

Jane Don't you feel free?

Tom No! I feel empty. Naked. Lonely. I miss them already. I'm really not ok with this.

Jane You will be, I promise.

Tom jumps up and exits SL.

What are you doing?

Tom *(Coming back in carrying a cardboard box)* I'm just checking.

He rummages through the box, tossing junk out as he does.

Jane Tom, stop!

Tom No, no. I think I had a toaster in here.

Jane You had ten toasters and none of them worked. They're going to the tip with everything else.

Tom But how can I make toast tomorrow without a toaster?

Jane You have a toaster. It's in the kitchen, where it belongs.

Tom But what if it breaks? I need a spare.

Jane No! You have everything you need and nothing you don't.

He sees an ornament on the floor and grabs it.

Tom I'll be ok if I can just keep this.

The Wunder Of You

Jane No!

Tom *(Grabbing another)* And this.

Jane No!

Tom But they're a set. They're quite precious

Jane They're junk. Like everything else in the seventy-eight boxes in the hallway. They. Are. Going. To. The. Tip!

Tom runs out again, returns with another box and starts pulling out newspapers and magazines.

Tom I need these. I can't throw these out.

Jane You don't *need* them.

Tom I *need* to keep up with current events if I've got to make friends and have visitors.

Jane Tommy, some of them are from as far back as 1992! I don't think those events are too current! Princess Di is old news!

Jane starts grabbing the scattered "junk" and shoving it back in the boxes, but just as quickly Tommy continues to take things out and clasp them to himself.

Tom You have no right to take my precious things!

Jane I'm helping you.

Tom I hate you.

Jane Don't be childish.

Tom Why can't you let me live my life the way I want to?

Jane Because you're not living your life, are you?

Silence. Tom stands still and looks down at the boxes.

Are you?

Tom shakes his head and drops everything into the boxes. Jane carries them out then returns. They sit down and start drinking their wines.