

FORGIVING RACHEL

by SCOTT W. KIRK

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: A woman has invited a friend over for coffee. Through their conversation, we learn that she has been asked to forgive the woman who broke up her marriage.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Take this script and mark it into "beats." It helps to mark the beats with a line and make a note in the margin, a simple label for each beat so you and the actor can have a quick overview of the dramatic action at a glance. To keep these moments fresh and interesting, make sure your actor playing Woman One doesn't "play the ending." In other words, don't let her act it as if she knows how it will all turn out. She needs to be as surprised as Woman Two that she is revealing so much about her situation.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2

TOPIC: Forgiveness, Divorce

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matthew 6:14-15

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service, Bible Study, Recovery groups

CHARACTERS:

Woman One – A divorced mother of three

Woman Two – Her friend

PROPS: 1) Two coffee cups
2) Two chairs (optional)
3) Table (optional)

COSTUMES: Contemporary clothing

SOUND: 2 wireless mikes

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: General

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Scene opens with WOMAN TWO sitting at a coffee table. WOMAN ONE ENTERS carrying two coffee mugs, sits down in a chair facing the audience and places one mug on the coffee table in front of her.

ONE: Here you go. No sugar, no cream as instructed. You are one brave woman. Mine's got to have half the sugar jar in it before it's right. *(Takes sip)*

TWO: Umm, this is nice.

ONE: I saw your mother at the grocery store yesterday. Boy, she looks good. I'd love to have half her energy. I swear that woman must drink Geritol by the gallon.

TWO: It's all in the genes. Unfortunately it skips generations.

ONE: *(Pause)* She asked me how I was holding together, and I smiled and said "just fine." *(Beat)* Those blue eyes of hers looked right past my pasted smile and stared right into my soul. Like she did that time we were in Sunday school. Remember, when she asked me if I watched R movies when my parents weren't home? I don't know how she does it. I said "just fine" and she raised that one eyebrow of hers, you know what I mean, and I knew she knew I was lying through my teeth. I didn't have to say anything and she could tell I was still going through hell. Right there in the Giant Eagle between the taco shells and salsa and my fake smile.

TWO: What's going on?

ONE: *(Pause)* It's been almost four years since Michael left. Everything seemed fine, I'm getting my life back, the kids are doing better and then bam, everything comes rushing back. All the emotions, all the lies, the betrayals. I thought I was over it. *(Pause)* Two nights ago I ... I had a phone call. *(Pause)* No, it wasn't Michael. *(Pause)* It was ... Rachel. I forgot, you never knew her name, did you? Rachel was the bimbo in his office that he had the affair with. *(Pause)* She said she hasn't seen him for over a year. Evidently he's moved on to other conquests. She wants ... she wants to meet with me.

TWO: Lotta nerve.

ONE: *(Pause)* Yeah, that's what I thought. She told me she's sorry for what she did to my marriage. She said ... she wanted to meet with me ... she needed to ask my forgiveness. *(Pause)*

TWO: What did you tell her?