

Drama Ministry®

POINT. CLICK. ACTION!

I GOT THIS

by RIKKI SCHWARTZ

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A father struggles to write the “father-of-the-bride” speech for his daughter’s wedding.

DIRECTOR’S TIP: The ‘build’ of the scene is important as Lisa grows increasingly frustrated with Rod, so take time in rehearsal to find all of the necessary beats to make the progression effective.

TIME: 8 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 1F & 1M

THEME: Christian living, Marriage

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: John 11; Proverbs 27:17

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship service, seeker service

CHARACTERS:

LISA – MOTHER OF THE BRIDE

ROD – FATHER OF THE BRIDE

PROPS: Office desk, two chairs, and desk items (including PC with keyboard and mouse, legal pad, pen and wastepaper basket).

COSTUMES: Contemporary casual

SOUND: Wireless mics if desired

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A home office

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I GOT THIS *by Rikki Schwartz*

Lights up. ROD is sitting at his (home-office) desk, scribbling on a (yellow paged) legal pad – a very large number of crumpled pages from that pad are seen in and around a wastepaper basket next to the desk. PC (as well as other in sundry desk items) are seen on desk as well.

LISA: *(Enters with a cup of coffee).* Hey Hon, I brought you a cup of coffee. How's it coming?

ROD: *(Trying to sound nonchalant)* Fine. *(Acknowledging coffee)* Thanks.

LISA: *(Begins picking up crumpled paper that didn't make the wastepaper basket, and depositing them into the basket – clear throat - also trying to sound nonchalant).* Rough start?

ROD: *(Admittedly)* It's going a little slower than I expected.

LISA: Can I hear what you've got so far?

ROD: *(Sighs)* Sure. *(Reading from pad)* Hello and thank you all for coming.

LISA: *(Waits, assuming there will be more – finally, when she realizes there won't be – she responds with genuine confidence)* I like it.

ROD: *(Finally leans back in his chair, clearly discouraged).* Our baby girl is getting married tomorrow. I just want this speech to be perfect.

LISA: See? That's your problem. You're putting too much pressure on yourself. The father-of-the-bride speech is not supposed to be "perfect". It just has to come from your heart. *(Pulls a chair up to the desk)* I mean, you want it to be poignant, yes, but throw in some funny stuff, so it's not too sappy. And memorable, of course...but not too long; nobody likes long speeches at weddings. And commanding is important, so you keep everyone's attention... but still humble, you know? So they don't think you're trying too hard.

ROD: *(Dryly)* As long as it doesn't have to be perfect. *(Beat)* I mean, I've got all these great stories to tell, I just don't know how to string them all together. I'm not a writer, I'm a dentist.

LISA: Ok. Why don't you start by writing out some of the talking points you want to cover, and I'll help you shore it up from there. I give safety presentations at my customer locations all the time.

ROD: Good idea, except I'm not hoping to teach our wedding guests when to don safety goggles, I'm hoping to launch our only daughter into the bliss of holy matrimony.

LISA: *(Slightly irritated)* Do you want my help or not?