

MARRIED BIRTHDAY

by CLARE SERA

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: It's Jennifer's birthday — her first as a married woman. She's excited and can't wait to see what her husband, Kevin, has planned for her. She fully expects that Kevin has picked up on all the little hints she's made about her favorite things and the restaurant she'd like to go to. Unfortunately, Kevin's not so in tune with his wife's unspoken wishes. This sketch is a great opener for a discussion on communication styles.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: This sketch is very short, so your choices need to be bold and clear. We're only getting the smallest glimpse into Jennifer and Kevin's newlywed life, but it's an important one. Work with the actors on developing their inner monologues and determining what they're feeling toward each other. Jennifer has hinted her wants to Kevin, but how subtly?

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2

TOPIC: Communication, Marriage

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Ephesians 5:21-23, Colossians 3:18-19

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service

CHARACTERS:

Jennifer ~ A young, married woman
Kevin ~ Her husband

PROPS: 1) Telephone
2) Rose-scented room spray
3) A gift: peach-scented room spray, bath oils and hand lotion
4) Magazine rack
5) Sneaker phone (can substitute other sports-related phone or use a real sneaker and pretend it's a phone)
6) Table, chairs and magazines to denote a living room

COSTUMES: Modern day

SOUND: Three wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A kitchen

Drama Ministry

service@DramaMinistry.com
www.DramaMinistry.com
ISSN 1084-5917

Drama Ministry is a division of
Belden Worship Resources
www.beldenworshipresources.com

Publisher: **Regi Stone**

Executive Editor: **Kimberlee Crisafulli** / Assistant Editor: **Scott Crain**

Copyright ©2011 by Drama Ministry. Material is intended for use by the subscriber in the subscriber's local church. With the exception of scripts, no issue may be reproduced by any means. As a subscriber, you may make as many copies of scripts as needed in your church only. You may perform the sketch as often as you wish at no additional cost. Scripts and performance rights aren't transferable between churches and cannot be resold. You may not use the sketch for any commercial or fundraising purpose, and usage rights do not extend to video, radio, television or film.

MARRIED BIRTHDAY *by Clare Sera*

JENNIFER is talking on the phone, straightening up her living room as she talks.

JENNIFER: And that's why ferrets just make bad pets. *(Pause)* Anyway, yes, I am pretty excited. It's my first married birthday, and I can't wait to see what Kevin bought me. He should be home any minute. *(She sprays the room while she talks.)* Mmmmmm ... rose. What? Oh, I bought some rose-scented room spray yesterday ... yes, to match my rose potpourri and rose bath oils. Oh, I know. Rose has been my favorite fragrance since I was 10. Anyway, I was hinting at Kevin to take me to the new vegetarian restaurant downtown. It sounds delicious. No, no, I'm not a full vegetarian; I've just cut out red meat. For about six months. Yeah, I feel so much better. Oh—I think I hear him coming. Bye, Linda. Thanks for calling. *(JENNIFER hangs up the phone as KEVIN ENTERS with a gift.)*

KEVIN: Happy birthday, sweetheart! *(He hands her the gift.)*

JENNIFER: Oh, thank you, honey! *(She opens it.)* Bath oils! How great! In ... peach. Peach.

KEVIN: There's also hand lotion and room spray.

JENNIFER: In ... peach. How ... peachy.

KEVIN: Nothin's too good for my wife! I also got you this! *(He hands her a magazine rack.)* It's to hold all my Sports Illustrated magazines. I know it's been driving you crazy the way I leave them lying around the house. And when I bought it, I got this — happy birthday! *(He holds up a sneaker.)* It's a phone! Isn't that great? I'm going to use it to make reservations for dinner for us right now.

JENNIFER: Oh, good. I'm starved.

KEVIN: *(Plugs in phone, then dials)* Charlie's Steak House? Two for dinner at 8:00, please ... and the best table you have — it's my wife's birthday and I want to treat her right!

..... *Lights down.*

Copyright 2011 Clare Sera, published by Drama Ministry
PO Box 40387, Nashville, TN, 37204 · Phone: 1-866-859-7622 · Fax: 1-615-463-9139 · E-mail: service@DramaMinistry.com
Material is intended for use by the subscriber in the subscriber's local church. With the exception of scripts, no issue of Drama Ministry may be reproduced by any means. As a subscriber, you may make as many copies of scripts as needed for your church only. You may perform the sketch as often as you wish at no additional cost. Scripts and performance rights are not transferable between churches and cannot be resold. You may not use the sketch for any commercial or fundraising purpose, and usage rights do not extend to video, radio, television or film outside your church.

DIRECTOR'S TIP CONT: Is there any way Kevin should have picked them up? Is Kevin just an insensitive oaf? The stronger choice is to play him as a loving, caring husband who really believes he's giving his wife the best birthday present ever. And be careful not to make this a "husband-bashing" sketch. It's about missed opportunities for communication and the struggles newlyweds can have with moving beyond the dating phase and into a long-term relationship built on trust and honesty.