

# Dressing Room

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a short play

by

Alex Broun and the Short+Sweet Script Development Group (Bobbi-lea Dionysius, Ingrid Gang, Justyna Kiczor, Kate Prestt, Daphne Quah, Janeen Sonsie, Lara Woolf)

Email: [abroun@bigpond.net.au](mailto:abroun@bigpond.net.au)

[www.alexbroun.com](http://www.alexbroun.com)

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## Characters

DAPHNE

SUE

ROBBIE

NATALIE

MARY

PAULA

JENNIFER

## **Setting**

A dance class.

## Dressing Room

DAPHNE: That was great. I know it.

SUE: Can you believe it ?

DAPHNE: Sparkle, sparkle.

SUE: The one on the cupboard (BEAT) Robbie.

ROBBIE: Sue. Hi. Natalie.

SUE: What are you doing ?

ROBBIE: Ricardo.

SUE: Where's your team ?

ROBBIE: They're on their way. They'll be hear in just a second.

NATALIE: With Sasha.

ROBBIE: Yes, yes. Sasha agreed to come back and join us when Sue wasn't part of it.

SUE: So did you actually get hand movements in ?

ROBBIE: No we decided we'd just dance with our hands by our sides like we were doing Irish dancing.

SUE: Oh, so you're going to keep your hands to yourself.

ROBBIE: Yes, wish you'd do the same.

NATALIE: Can you do that ?

ROBBIE: Sorry Natalie.

NATALIE: I want to see you do that, with your arms by your side. They're very precious.

ROBBIE: We can do that with hands by our side. (BEAT) I hope you're not using any of our moves.

NATALIE: We wouldn't.

SUE: Ah, we won't.

ROBBIE: Cause I've spoken to the judges and you do you will be disqualified because they're all friends of mine.

SUE: As I've said we don't want to lose so we won't be using them.

NATALIE: And Jacqueline's got a really hot routine.

SUE: Oh yeah, Jacqueline's coming back.

ROBBIE: Oh did she pop over ?

SUE: Yeah.

ROBBIE: Lucky you, lucky Jacqueline. You're all together.

NATALIE: Because she's won awards, hasn't she ?

ROBBIE: Not the main awards. She hasn't won the real competitions.

SUE: Whatever.

ROBBIE: The national ones that I've won.

NATALIE: Really.

SUE: You mean a hundred years ago.

BEAT. MARY ENTERS.

ROBBIE: Hi Mary.

NATALIE: Hi.

ROBBIE: How are you ?

MARY: Good. What are they doing here ?

ROBBIE: We have to share.

SUE: Especially with you cause I've heard she's (ROBBIE) going to win.

MARY: I don't care.

ROBBIE: Where's Sasha ?

SUE: Yeah Mary, where's Sasha ?

SUE AND NATALIE BURST OUT LAUGHING.

ROBBIE: Quiet.

MARY: Is Sasha not here ?

ROBBIE: No. You two normally go everywhere together.

MARY: Yeah, okay, well I don't know. I'm not Sasha's keeper.

ROBBIE: Well you normally are.

MARY: No I'm not.

SUE: That's a surprise.

PAULA ENTERS.

NATALIE: Hi Paula.

MARY: Hello Paula.

PAULA: Do we have to share a dressing room ?

SUE: Yep.

ROBBIE: Yes unfortunately we do.

SUE: (TO NATALIE) Where's the others ?

NATALIE: I don't know.

SUE: Registration closes in ten minutes. So if they don't get here they can't register.

NATALIE: I'll call them.

JENNIFER ENTERS

JENNIFER: Hi Robbie. Hi Mary.

ROBBIE: Hi Jennifer.

JENNIFER: Is this the only dressing room ?

ROBBIE: Yes.

JENNIFER: When are we on ?

ROBBIE: About ten minutes.

NATALIE: (ON PHONE) Hi Jasmine, hi./Where are you ?/Well I'll just let you know registrations close in ten minutes so, do you want to get down here ?/No ten minutes, yeah. Get down here. Bye, see ya.

(CONT; CALLS AGAIN) Hey Danny, where are you ?/Well you've got get down here in ten minutes because that's when registration closes.

SUE: (CALLING TO PHONE) Danny – get your arse down here.

NATALIE: Yeah get your arse down here. You heard her ?/Yeah, you've got ten minutes./I don't care. Get down here. See ya.

ROBBIE: (TO NATALIE) Missing half your team are you then ?

NATALIE: No, they're on their way.

JENNIFER: Least we know where our girls are.

SUE: Not all of them.

ROBBIE: Where's Sasha Mary ?

MARY: Coming. She's coming.

ROBBIE: Come on, you always know where Sasha is. Why isn't she here ?

MARY: I don't know.

ROBBIE: She should've been here ten minutes ago.

MARY: Okay Robbie. Okay.

JENNIFER: Robbie I'm not dealing with this so what do I actually need to do ?

ROBBIE: Get dressed, get your make up on and then we'll find a room and go and have a final practice before we start. So do that.

JENNIFER EXITS TO GET CHANGED.

ROBBIE: (BEAT) Ah Marty, Sasha's fifteen minutes late. What's going on ?

MARY: She's not late.

ROBBIE: Oh come on, you always know what's going on with Sasha. Where is she ? What's happening ?

MARY: She's coming. It's fine.

ROBBIE: Fine ?

MARY: She's meant to be here and she will be here.

ROBBIE: You sure it's fine because it doesn't seem fine.

MARY: Robbie, don't stress. She's meant to be here

ROBBIE: Mary, I don't believe you. Sasha's never late. What happened ?

MARY: She's only late cause she can't find her way in the door.

PAULA: Exactly, exactly. And she's coming, she's ... fine.

ROBBIE: What's wrong ?

MARY: I'm just a little bit nervous and –

SUE: Is that all Mary ?

MARY: Yes and Sasha's very happy to be involved. And she'll, she'll be here.

JENNIFER: (RETURNS) Robbie, there's a film crew arriving outside.

GENERAL EXCITEMENT FROM THE REST OF THE GIRLS.

SUE: We're going to be on TV.

NATALIE: That's so cool.

JENNIFER: Is that right ?

ROBBIE: Yes, I believe it is going to be recorded for TV. Just a highlights package.

NATALIE: Isn't that great ?

ROBBIE: (TO JENNIFER) Is that a problem ?

JENNIFER: Well it may not be a problem for you but for me it's a problem.

NATALIE AND ROBBIE: Why ?

ROBBIE: (TO NATALIE) May I handle this ?

JENNIFER: Well I can't be shown on national television in a dance competition.

SUE: Why ? Have you escaped from jail ?

ROBBIE: Sue – please. Mind your own business.

JENNIFER: I've got a professional reputation. No one knows I'm doing this dance class.

ROBBIE: You're embarrassed.

JENNIFER: No, I'm not embarrassed.

ROBBIE: Yes you are.

SUE: The way you dance I'd be embarrassed too.

PAULA: (TO SUE) Shut up.

JENNIFER: Thank you Sue, I don't need your input. (TO ROBBIE) Robbie I'm sorry but I cannot, I really cannot –

MARY: Are you thinking of pulling out ?

JENNIFER: I don't want to make things difficult but I really can't –

MARY: I think that's a good idea.

ROBBIE: What ?

MARY: You really should've –

ROBBIE: Mary ! How can you say that ? We've worked for three months.

MARY: Well you should've told Jennifer it might be televised.

ROBBIE: Most people would be pleased by that.

JENNIFER: Well I'm not.

MARY: And that's understandable.

ROBBIE: Mary. How can you say it's a good idea she pulls out ? Sasha's not here – if Jennifer doesn't dance we can't go on.

PAULA: Can't we go on as three ?

ROBBIE: No, we'd look stupid.

SUE: Not more stupid than you're already look.

MARY: Great fine, we've had fun. Maybe it's time to call it a day.

ROBBIE: Mary, you're such a wimp.

MARY: There's too much bad blood and I think maybe it's not such a bad idea if we just don't go on.

ROBBIE: Mary, where is Sasha ? What's happened between you two ?

BEAT.

MARY: Ah, we had a bit of a disagreement last night ?

ROBBIE: Right.

PAULA: So she's not coming.

ROBBIE: So Sasha's spat the dummy again and pulled out on us at the last minute.

PAULA: That's so typical. She is so totally unreliable.

MARY: No, I don't know that.

ROBBIE: Where is she ?

SUE: Well is she coming or not ?

ROBBIE: What's it got to do with you ?

MARY: I ... I don't know if she's coming or not.

ROBBIE: We've got four minutes. What are we going to do ?

JENNIFER; You talking about me now ?

ROBBIE: Yes. Sasha's not coming, if you don't go on – none of us can.

SUE: Mary's right Robbie. You should just give up.

ROBBIE: Well neither can you. You're missing registration.

PAULA: You've got two people who aren't here ?

ROBBIE: What are we going to do ?

MARY: Well I don't mind, I'm happy to not perform.

JENNIFER: No Mary, you can't pull out.

MARY: You mean I can't but you can.

ROBBIE: Guys, guys – we've got to go on. We've paid our registration fees. They're not refundable.

SUE: See, that's all she cares about. Fees.

NATALIE: Well, we only need two more people. (BEAT) Like Paula said we're also missing two dancers and you're all registered and we do know all your routines as we did practice together -

ROBBIE: For three months.

NATALIE: Yeah, so ...

SUE: Natalie, what are you saying ?

NATALIE: (BEAT) Join together.

BEAT.

ROBBIE: Well ...

SUE: But if we do join together and we win how do we split the prize money ?

ROBBIE: Well it goes to the school that the registration's under.