WHIRLED TRUTH

By Len Cuthbert

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PUBLISHED BY

Eldridge Publishing Company
PO Box 14367
Tallahassee, FL 32317
95church.com
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STORY OF THE PLAY

Megan, too young to have a job, secretly applies for a position as a waitress in order to buy her mom the perfect Christmas gift. Of course she has to make a few innocent "obscurities" on the application to get the job. Upon getting hired, she discovers that she has to take her sister to the Santa Clause parade on the restaurant's busiest day of the year, which she is required to work. With the help of her friend Lana, she finds a solution. Unfortunately, Lana gets grounded the day of the parade and can't help Megan's out.

Denon, Megan's co-worker, borrows the money Megan is saving, as a solution to his secret problem. They cover up their lies with more lies, resulting in whirled truth. As Megan continues to solve her dilemma, the lies culminate into a small disaster in the restaurant, leaving Megan and Denon expecting to get fired. Mr. Broox, the restaurant owner, calls them in for a special meeting. To their surprise, the meeting turns out to be a staff Christmas party. Mr. Broox is the mending factor by exposing the need for world truth.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

MEGAN: Teen girl. Quick-thinking, and straightforward. Best friend of Lana.

LANA: Teen girl. Guy crazy.

DENON: Older teen boy.

MR. BROOX: New manager of the diner. Patient and kind, but firm. A Christian.

AMANDA: Teen girl. Friend of Megan and Lana. Talkative, gossipy, witless with a prim character.

TONY: Teen boy. Old boyfriend of Lana. Limited role.

JONATHAN: Teen boy. New boyfriend of Lana. Limited role.

Playing Time: Approximately 50 minutes.

SYNOPSIS OF THE PLAY

Scene 1: A month before the Santa Claus Parade.
Scene 2: Two weeks later.
Scene 3: Two weeks later.
Scene 4: The next day (Parade Day).
Scene 5: The next evening.

SET

A section of a small restaurant. It is central to an archway to the main dining area (SR), a door and service window to the kitchen (UCS), and the entrance door to the restaurant (SL). In this area there are at least 2 small tables with chairs at them. There is also a small, level-top podium near the entrance.

PROPS

Purse (for Lana) with some money, pen.
Empty glasses with straws, one with pop.
Several napkins.
A menu.
Application forms and pen.
Apron, name tag and order pad (for Megan).
Compact and nail file (for Amanda).
Dinner plates with food.
Telephone.
Small Christmas tree on a cart.
Three wrapped gifts: money in an envelope, 2 plane tickets, a framed application form.
Bible.

SCENE 1

(AT RISE: It is a month before the town's big Santa Claus Parade. MEGAN and LANA are at a table with empty glasses and straws, arguing.)

MEGAN: Chicago.
LANA: San Francisco.
MEGAN: Chicago.
LANA: I'm telling ya, Megan, it was San Francisco.
MEGAN: Mr. Lee moved to Chicago. His son even told me.
LANA: His son? David? David told you that? David is a confused child.
MEGAN: True. He dated you, Lana.
LANA: Ha, ha. *(Thinks)* I'm gonna miss Mr. Lee. He was a cool guy.
MEGAN: This restaurant has never had a better manager.
LANA: That's because Mr. Lee was the only manager this place ever had.
MEGAN: Well...like I said...it's never had a better manager. *(LANA slurps on the straw in her empty soda glass.)* Must you be so uncivilized?
LANA: *(SHE looks at MEGAN and slurps again. MR. BROOX appears from the kitchen.)* Meg, there he is.
MEGAN: That's the new manager?
LANA: Yeah. He sure doesn't look like a manager.
MEGAN: Well, what's a manager supposed to look like?
LANA: You think he's got a son?
MEGAN: What's the matter, Lana. You break up with Brian already?
LANA: You mean, Tony. Brian was last week.
MEGAN: Tony? Have I ever met him?
LANA: Last Friday, remember?
MEGAN: Friday? I thought that was Brian.

LANA: It was Tony.
MEGAN: No wonder he wouldn't respond to me half the time. You know, I can't keep up with you and your boyfriends.
LANA: Give me a break. You're starting to sound like my mother. She thinks I have a problem with my dating habits.
MEGAN: It might have something to do with the fact that you change boyfriends faster than the light at Main and King. *(LANA slurps again. MEGAN grabs the glass and moves it.)* If you keep that up, you'll inhale the whole glass. Why don't you stick with one guy long enough so that your mom can get a chance to meet him?

LANA: Why would I want to do that?
MEGAN: Think of it as sort of a Christmas gift to her.
LANA: Nah. I like to surprise her with the annual broom and dust pan set.
MEGAN: You're so predictable.
LANA: Did you figure out what you're getting your mom for Christmas yet?
MEGAN: Yeah, but my financial status doesn't agree with my ideas. I'd like to buy her a ticket to visit Grandma, even though it would be a lonely Christmas for the rest of our family. We don't think Grandma'll be around much longer.
LANA: Your grandma going somewhere?
MEGAN: *(Looks at LANA strangely)* She's old. When one gets too old, they die.
LANA: You know, I thought of that the moment I asked the stupid question.
MEGAN: They say the tongue is quicker than the brain...and, in your case, the brain doesn't stand a chance.
LANA: Thanks, Meg. Doesn't your grandma live in Holland or Hungary?
MEGAN: Halifax, Lana. Halifax, Nova Scotia. But close. She has to fly there, but there's no way she can afford the plane ticket.
LANA: Megan, you can't afford to buy her a ticket.
MEGAN: Who said anything about me buying a ticket?

End of Freeview

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