

“Dear Jesus: A Valentine Story”

by
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What When Becky finds a Valentine card she wrote to God as a 7-year-old, she reflects on how much easier it seemed to love God and to know that He loved her. She remembers that God loves her, no matter what.

Themes: Valentine’s Day, Child, Adult, Relationships, Love, Growth, Duet, Drama, Hope, Forgiveness

Who Becky- 7-year-old played by an adult actress
Becky- 35-year-old

When Present Day

**Wear
(Props)** 2 Old Shoe boxes that look exactly alike
2 Paper Valentines that look exactly alike
Red Construction Paper
Scissors
Crayons
Table
Chair

Why 1 John 4:19, Romans 8:38-39, Romans 5:5, John 3:16

How 35 yr. old Becky is inviting the audience to look back with her in time. She can be looking directly at 7 yr. old Becky; however, 7 yr. old Becky should never look directly at 35 yr old Becky.

*See the end of this script for more ideas on how to perform this script.

Time Approximately 3 minutes

Stage Left there is a table and a chair. On top of the table there is an old shoe box, red construction paper, scissors, and crayons.

Child enters, goes to the table and begins to create a valentine.

Adult enters from Stage Right, she is looking through an old shoebox. She finds an old valentine.

She looks at it and shakes her head. She then breaks the fourth wall and speaks directly to the audience.

Adult continues to direct her dialogue to the audience unless otherwise noted.

Adult: I remember writing this.

She turns the valentine over in her hand.

Adult: I must have been... *(trying to remember)* How old was I?

She opens the valentine and sighs.

Adult: Back then love was easy. I wasn't cynical.

Pause.

Adult: *(speaking to the valentine in her hand)* I wasn't mad at you. I didn't blame you for my life falling apart. I hadn't become bitter...yet.

Pause.

Adult: *(to audience)* I wish things could be simple again.

Adult looks at Child as if remembering.

Child has already written this valentine. She is re-reading what she has written.

Child: Dear Valentine, I made Daddy cookies and I picked Mommy some flowers, but I don't have anything to give to you. Soo...

She grabs a crayon to add some more o's.

Child: ooooo—

Child puts the crayon down and keeps reading.

Child: I'm making you a homemade valentine!

Pause. She tilts her head and thinks. She is trying to decide if she spelled valentine correctly.

Child: *(calling offstage left)* Mom! How do you spell valentine?!

Listening.

Child: Mom?!

Listening.

Child grabs a crayon and crosses something out on her paper.

Child: I'll just draw a heart.

Adult: Relationships can be overwhelming. They take so much time and energy that...sometimes it's just easier to avoid him and...forget what things use to be.

Child continues reading.

Child: I love you soooo

She grabs a crayon to add some more o's.

Child: oooooooooo much!

Adult: Why are those words so hard to say now?

Child adds the smiley faces and exclamation point as she talks.

Child: Double smiley face. Explanation point!

Child puts the crayon down and keeps reading.

Child: I love talking to you.

Adult: It's hard to keep talking when it doesn't feel like anyone's listening.

Pause.

Adult: You know, looking back, he was listening. I just...It felt like he wasn't, and I was too stubborn to keep trying.

Child: I like doing things with you,

Adult: We haven't hung out in a while. *(Admittedly)* And I'm to blame.

Child: And I know you like doing things with me.

Adult: He keeps calling. I guess I can be stubborn. I don't know how to say I'm sorry. He calls, but I just don't answer.

Pause.

Adult: But now, I wish things hadn't changed.

Child: I know sometimes I make you sad.

Pause.

Adult: *(ashamed)* More times than I want to admit.

Pause.

Adult: I made a lot of mistakes.

Pause.

Adult: Big mistakes.

Adult puts the valentine back in the box.

Child: Sorry about those.

She grabs a crayon to add the exclamation point.

Child: Exclamation point.

Adult: I don't respond to him because... Well, honestly, I just don't expect him to love me anymore. But for some reason—

Child: You love me anyways.

She stands and holds the valentine up.

Child: Happy Valentine's Day, Jesus.

Adult: *(she looks away from audience and up to heaven)* Thanks for loving me anyways, Lord.

How Continued:

If you do not have space for a table and chair, feel free to have 7yr old Becky create and write her Valentine on the floor. It would work for a younger child to be playing on the floor.

It needs to be clear to the audience that 7 yr. old Becky and 35 yr. old Becky are the same person. Therefore...

*Costume choices should be similar. They don't need to be exactly the same, but there should be some correlating features. For example, they could wear the same color, or they could have their hair in the same style, etc.

*Also, both shoe boxes need to be exactly the same. One idea would be to cover them both with the same color construction paper.

*7 yr. old Becky needs to be creating a Valentine that looks identical to the one that 35B is holding.

Note: 'Explanation point' instead of exclamation point is intentional. The little girl should be accidently pronouncing it incorrectly.