



2-PERSON SCENES

This scene is from a Stage Partners play, free to read in full at yourstagepartners.com.

As If, Cassandra by Jason Pizzarello

2F

Drama

(A two-bedroom apartment in Elizabeth, New Jersey.)

(CASSIE walks in, still in her cheerleading outfit, to find her mother KAREN there. She's decorating a fake Christmas tree with tinsel, ornaments, etc.)

KAREN: Merry Christmas!

CASSIE: Hi, Mom.

KAREN: Are you going to help decorate? I saved some for you.

CASSIE: Sure. In a minute.

KAREN: Why are you dressed like that?

CASSIE: We had a game.

KAREN: Oh. Did we win?

CASSIE: It's not over yet. But, no we won't.

KAREN: That's nice, dear. Go Centaurs!

(CASSIE watches her mom decorate, still trying to shake the game.)

KAREN: I was thinking we could make some hot cocoa. Wouldn't that be nice?

CASSIE: Uh-huh.

(CASSIE gives her mom a hug and then hands her a wooden horse ornament.)

KAREN: Thank you, sweetheart.

CASSIE: Did anyone come by?

KAREN: What do you mean?

CASSIE: Did you have any visitors? Neighbors or anyone?

KAREN: I don't think so.

CASSIE: You don't think so?

KAREN: I've been very busy.

CASSIE: No one was...knocking on the door?

KAREN: Just ol' man winter.

CASSIE: Good. Well if anyone—

(A sharp pounding on the door. The same as before.)

(KAREN is about to say something but CASSIE holds her finger up to her lips.)

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(The loud knocking continues. CASSIE moves to be next to her mother and gives her another ornament. They silently decorate until the pounding on the door stops.)

(They wait. CASSIE creeps over to the door and listens. Nothing.)

CASSIE: Okay I think he's gone.

KAREN: What's wrong, Cassandra?

CASSIE: I— I thought... Nevermind. Nothing. I'm fine.

(KAREN holds up an ornament.)

KAREN: Oh look at this one! I remember the day you got this. We had everyone over. I made Spanakopita. It snowed a foot and your Aunt Helen gave this to you. *(Reading the ornament:)* To Cassandra, Believe in Love 2009. You were seven.

(CASSIE examines the ornament.)

CASSIE: How do you remember all that?

KAREN: Oh I remember it like it was yesterday. But it wasn't yesterday, was it?

(CASSIE smiles thinking it was a rhetorical question.)

KAREN: Was it?

CASSIE: No, Mom. It was a long time ago.

KAREN: See. And you say I can't remember things. But I remember the Spanakopita. Explain that.

CASSIE: I can't.

KAREN: And you shouldn't. The mind works in mysterious ways. Purposely. Mysteriously. Why? You don't need to know why.

CASSIE: The past looks fuzzy to you the way the future looks to me. I can see but it's blurry. Is that weird? To be able to see ahead what others can't?

KAREN: You worry too much.

CASSIE: Yeah.

KAREN: Plus you're probably hungry. All this talk of spinach.

End of Scene.

AS IF, CASSANDRA by Jason Pizzarello

Length: 40-45 minutes **Cast Size:** 9-20 actors (suggested casting: 9F, 2M, 4+ any)

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: A modern twist on the ancient Cassandra story, we follow cheerleader and high school senior Cassie as she attempts to thwart a tragic fate. Prom is approaching, which Cassie is dreading because of a dark and deadly premonition. Is it possible to convince her friends she's not nuts and avoid the inevitable?

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