



Wonthaggi
Theatrical
Group Inc
EST 1969

“Home, I’m Darling” – 2026

Script extracts for audition – JUDY (female lead)

Age: 30s-40s

pp. 12 – 15

pp. 66 – 69

See Audition Information for details

Sorry I said penis.

JUDY: Fran, look – the Johnny thing,

FRAN: I'm sorry, I didn't mean to suggest

JUDY: I don't want to hear anything like that, I don't want it in the house.

FRAN: OK, sorry.

Sorry.

JUDY: No, it's OK.

FRAN drinks her tea, looks around.

How'd you get your taps so shiny?

JUDY: Um, half a lemon. Rubbed round.

FRAN: Huh.

JUDY: Old ways are the best.

FRAN: Marcus says that.

JUDY: It's all there on the internet, all the hints and tips. You can do most things with lemon juice, vinegar, soda crystals. Better than all the chemicals people use now.

FRAN: I don't know anything about

JUDY: There's a book if you're interested.

FRAN: Yeah?

JUDY goes to a drawer, pulls out a book and hands it to FRAN.

JUDY: It's my bible, this.

FRAN: "How To Ruin Your Home Without Help"

JUDY: *Run.* How to run your home.

FRAN: Sorry, it's very small writing.

JUDY: 1949, so it's a bit early. Middle-class women doing without servants for the first time, after the war.

FRAN: Wow, this is

Terrifying.

JUDY: No, she splits it all down into daily tasks, weekly things,

Every room gets a light going-over every morning, air the bedrooms, make the bed, then each afternoon you do one or two rooms properly – behind things and under things, vacuum, dust, wipe, polish. Then dinner cooking. Plus Monday is your washing day and Friday is baking.

FRAN: So much to do.

JUDY: It's manageable when you break it down. Plus we're not dealing with all that coal dust anymore.

FRAN: You've been talking to me for an hour, you should have been ironing the door handles. You really do all this?

JUDY: Have a borrow if you like.

FRAN: Can I? Thank you.

FRAN gets up to leave.

Best get started.

JUDY picks up the dress they were looking at and holds it up.

JUDY: Maybe not this one, it's a good dancing dress I'll need it next month, won't I? Kicks out really nicely when you spin.

FRAN: Need it for?

JUDY: Jivestock?

FRAN: Yes.

JUDY: You haven't forgotten?

FRAN: No no.

JUDY: 28th to the 30th.

FRAN: Yes no absolutely. No, very excited.

JUDY puts the dress back on the pile. They walk to the front door.

I'm sorry I upset you

JUDY: I'm not upset.

FRAN picks up some letters from the mat.

FRAN: Post for you.

JUDY: Can you believe how late they come now? Four o'clock, look.

FRAN: See you next week?

JUDY: Yes, and you're coming for tea on Sunday, yes?

FRAN: Yes of course. 'Bye.

JUDY: Bye bye.

JUDY closes the door and comes back down the hallway looking through the pile of letters. She sees one that looks serious and opens it, standing by the kitchen table. She reads it, putting a hand to her mouth.

The doorbell rings, making JUDY jump. She stuffs the letter back in its envelope then opens the cupboard under the sink and puts the letter right at the back.

JUDY goes down the hallway and opens the front door. There's nobody there, but she calls to a figure retreating down the path.

JUDY: Hello?

SYLVIA: Oh hi.

Didn't think you were in.

JUDY: No, I had to wash my hands I was just

SYLVIA: Hello darling.

SYLVIA has reached the front door and she and JUDY hug hello.

How are you?

JUDY: Yeah I'm fine

Come in.

JUDY leads SYLVIA through to the kitchen.

SYLVIA: I didn't think you were in I thought you were out.

JUDY: No, well I'm in.

SYLVIA: I thought maybe you'd started a new job.

JUDY: No.

SYLVIA: I was just going to get a pen and paper from the car.
Can't text you, can I?

JUDY: Is that why you didn't tell me you were coming?
Because I haven't got a mobile phone?

SYLVIA: I didn't know I was coming today but yes, I do think it's bloody-minded of you when the entire rest of the world has accepted a basic level of

JUDY: Tea?

SYLVIA: Yes please.

Anyway I was just in the area, thought I'd pop in.

JUDY goes to put the kettle on. SYLVIA takes off her coat to reveal a colourful dress underneath.

JUDY: We do have a landline. Why were you in the area?

SYLVIA: I've been to a funeral, actually.

JUDY looks at SYLVIA's clothing.

It said 'no black'.

JUDY: Who, um

Is it sugar at the moment or not sugar?

JUDY: And that's how we feel about the fifties. This would mean we could live there all the time.

I think we might find we love it.

JOHNNY: Yes.

JUDY: Yes?

JOHNNY: Yes. Yes, OK, yes.

JUDY claps with joy. She kisses JOHNNY.

JUDY: I'm so happy.

JOHNNY: Good.

JUDY: How d'you feel?

JOHNNY: I'm just thinking about all those surfaces

JUDY: D'you want to go upstairs?

JOHNNY: Upstairs before dinner? Yes, why not.

JUDY: No reason.

JOHNNY: No reason.

JOHNNY drains his cocktail, stands and kisses her.

JUDY takes his hand and leads him up to the bedroom. Once there, they kiss and sink back onto the bed.

SCENE 2

2 am. JUDY is sitting at the kitchen table, in a dressing gown, staring ahead of her.

JOHNNY comes in the front door quietly.

JUDY stands up, goes to the sink and busies herself drying some dishes.

JOHNNY comes into the kitchen and sees JUDY.

JUDY: Where've you been?

JOHNNY: Went for a drive.

JUDY: It's two o'clock.

JOHNNY: They've gone, have they? Fran and Marcus.

JUDY: Of course they've gone, it's two o'clock.

I don't know when I've been so embarrassed.

JOHNNY: Is that what we're going to focus on?

JUDY stops.

JUDY: D'you want some tea?

JOHNNY: No.

JUDY: Are you hungry?

JOHNNY: I thought you'd be asleep.

JUDY: I didn't know where you were.

JOHNNY: My head was bursting.

JUDY: Johnny, I'm sorry about the bank letter. I didn't show you because you panic about

JOHNNY: We're supposed to share things like that. Squirrelling things under the sink that's not a marriage.

JUDY: I thought I could sort it out.

JOHNNY sits down at the table.

JOHNNY: I had an idea. It's not perfect but it might give us some time, OK? Time to get straight.

JUDY: What is it?

JOHNNY: We use some of the money your dad left you.

I know you're supposed to save it for something special, but if it's just temporary while we get back on our feet, he wouldn't mind that, would he?

I know it's sacred that money and we don't touch it but

JUDY: It's gone, Johnny.

JOHNNY: It's gone?

JUDY: I've been using it to plug the gap.

JOHNNY: Your rainy day money?

JUDY: I guess it's been a pretty wet year. The fridge, the car and

JOHNNY: We haven't had that many repairs, have we?

JUDY: Just a little bit each month, but it adds up.

JOHNNY: You've burned through all of it?

JUDY: Yeah.

JOHNNY: Could we ever afford this?

JUDY: Yes, when there was more money coming in.

JOHNNY: When you had a job.

JUDY: After that.

JOHNNY: When?

JUDY: Don't make me

JOHNNY: When?

JUDY: OK, when your salary was bigger.

When we started this. There was. More commission.

JOHNNY: So it's me.

JUDY: It's not your fault, it's the market, isn't it?

JOHNNY: My failure to provide.

JUDY: I didn't say that. The promotion was going to sort it out.

JOHNNY: Sorry, am I being massively lower middle class about this? You don't start spending the money till you've got it.

JUDY: We were sure you'd get it.

JOHNNY: So if I can't bring enough money in to fund this life, we have to stop, don't we?

JUDY: It's just the finance, just give me a chance to sort out the finance. I'm truly truly sorry, I was trying to protect you

JOHNNY: I'm a big boy I don't need

JUDY: This is what I'm saying, I made a mistake and I'm sorry, but leave it with me and I'll try and think of a way round it because it doesn't need to be a thing that knocks us off course, does it? You wouldn't be saying all this about wanting to stop if you hadn't found that letter, would you?

Would you?

JOHNNY: I think maybe Alex coming here lost me the promotion.

JUDY: No.

JOHNNY: Don't you think it's maybe a bit of a turnoff, knowing someone gets waited on at home, wouldn't you kind of lose respect for them a bit?

JUDY: Let me talk to her, I can talk to her if you

JOHNNY: No, god.

JUDY: Why does it matter what anyone else thinks? If we choose to share out the tasks in our marriage in a different way from

JOHNNY: OK, you're not going to listen let's go to bed.

JUDY: I'm listening.

JOHNNY: Let's go to bed, talk about it in the morning.

JUDY: No, Johnny. I've sat here all evening waiting for you, worried about what you'll be coming back in with.

JOHNNY: I'm tired.