

Lost Things

Jo Rake





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LOST THINGS

By Jo Rake

CAST

KAREN: A woman mid 40s or older

MARK: A man of comparable age to Karen

Place

A family or living room.

Time

The present.

LOST THINGS

Setting: A living or family room. There is a sofa (or chairs arranged to represent a sofa) center. There may be other furniture. Note: if chairs are used to represent the sofa, use some chair cushions and place baskets or bags containing the “deeply lost” items behind the chairs. If sofa is used, the lost items should be placed under the cushions.

At rise: Karen is searching for something, looking in her large purse, checking under things, becoming more and more frustrated. Mark enters and watches Karen for a few moments.

KAREN: Damn. Where is it?

MARK: Where’s what?

KAREN: My cell (*looks through her large purse again*).

MARK: Did you lose it again?

KAREN: I didn’t lose it. It’s just—misplaced.

MARK: You’ve lost it—again!

KAREN: What do you mean—again? I didn’t “lose” it “again.” I’ve just...

MARK: I know—“misplaced” it.

KAREN: Right.

MARK: Did you call it?

KAREN: With what?

MARK: Here, use my phone.

KAREN: (*tries*) It’s dead!

MARK: Darn. Guess I forgot to charge it. Okay, when did you last have it?

KAREN: Have what?

MARK: Your cell phone. Isn't that what you lost?

KAREN: I told you. I didn't lose it. (*starts looking in purse again*)

MARK: Right, you didn't "lose" it. So, when DID you last have it?

KAREN: A little bit ago. I called Mona about the book club. Then Angie called.

MARK: Angie called? What did she want?

KAREN: Nothing. Just checking in.

MARK: Is she OK? She hasn't called for a while.

KAREN: She's fine. And she called on Saturday. You were playing golf.

MARK: Why didn't you tell me?

KAREN: I forgot.

MARK: She's my daughter, too! I worry about her.

KAREN: She's fine. She's busy. She and Ryan went to Napa for the weekend. And they may come here for Thanksgiving. Or we may go there.

MARK: Thanksgiving? That's months away.

KAREN: I know but they like to plan ahead—to get good airfares. Damn, it's not here?

MARK: What?

KAREN: My cell.

MARK: Oh, that's right. You lost it again.

KAREN: I DID NOT L... forget it.

MARK: Where have you looked?

KAREN: Everywhere.

MARK: In the car?

KAREN: Now why would I look in the car? I just used it in here.

MARK: Right. You called Mona and then Angie called. Then what?

KAREN: The doorbell rang. Oh, that package you were expecting arrived.

MARK: Great! Okay, so did you have your phone when you answered the door? Maybe you put it with the package. *(starts off)*

KAREN: I already looked there. And I think I put it down when the doorbell rang.

MARK: Where were you when the doorbell rang?

KAREN: I was sitting on the couch reading a book.

MARK: So, did you look in the couch? Under the cushions?

KAREN: Why would I do that? I'm pretty sure I didn't have it then.

MARK: You just said you put it down when the doorbell rang.

KAREN: I said I thought I put it down when the doorbell rang.

MARK: Fine. Let's just look, OK? *(they pull up the couch cushions or, if using chairs, reach into baskets.)*

KAREN: See, no phone. Crumbs, yes. Phone, no. Hey, is that a Christmas ornament? *(picks up a small, flat ornament)*. Look, it's the one we bought in Rothenburg.

MARK: I thought we got that one in Salzburg?

KAREN: *(looks closely)*. Maybe you're right. *(puts it aside. Mark is picking up stuff.)*

MARK: Paper bookmark. A quarter. A dime. A button. A squashed jellybean. A dog toy. When did you last clean under here?

KAREN: I don't know. Before Christmas?

MARK: Obviously (*picks up a wire ornament hanger*).

END OF FREEVIEW

You'll want to read and perform this show!