

Waving at Squirrels
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A one-minute play

CHARACTERS:

Kelly (male or female; over 50)

Taylor (male or female; younger; Kelly's grown child)

LIGHTS UP on KELLY on front porch. KELLY is looking and peering every which way. Disappointed, KELLY tries again. TAYLOR enters.

TAYLOR

Mom? (Dad?) Come inside. It's chilly this morning.

KELLY

I can't. I'm waiting for the children. They're usually here by now.

TAYLOR

There's no school, remember? You won't see them for a while.

KELLY

But - this is what I do. I come out every morning and wave to them as they go to school. Every. Morning. For years. And they wave back. They expect me. I can't disappoint them.

TAYLOR

You won't. But they won't be here today, so come inside and stay warm.

KELLY

No! This is why I get up in the morning! This is why I shower early/

TAYLOR

/You need/

KELLY

/This is why I brush my teeth! To wave at them.

TAYLOR

There's no one/

KELLY

/You can't be sure. There might be one. Just one. And I don't want to disappoint that one child. I'm not going in until I have someone to wave at!

(TAYLOR goes inside. KELLY looks and sees something. KELLY waves. KELLY turns in another direction and waves. This continues until TAYLOR returns with a blanket to put over KELLY and does so.)

TAYLOR

What are you doing?

KELLY

Waving at the squirrels.

TAYLOR

Good thinking.

KELLY

They don't wave back.

(TAYLOR hugs KELLY as the lights dim.)

END OF PLAY