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SCRIPTS FOR SCHOOLS

Ben's Sacrifice

By Rita Hestand

**A Traditional Play
Script for the
Elementary School**

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Cast of Characters: Narrator, Ben, Laurie, John, Dad, Mom, Amy Lynn O'Donnell, Ralph (the frog)

Scene 1: (Top of the stairs of Ben's house)

Narrator: Ben's standing very still at the top of the stairs, listening to his brother and sister discussing his mom's birthday. A birthday Ben had forgotten about.

John: Tomorrow's Mom's birthday, what are you getting her?"

Laurie: I bought her that pink blouse she's been wanting from the dress shop, where I work after school. What are you getting her?

John: I made her a birdcage during my woodworking class. She's always looking for stuff to decorate with. I figured she could hang it over the counter in the kitchen, since its blue and matches everything in there.

Laurie: Wow, I've seen those, they're cute, shell love it. I'm impressed; I didn't know you could build something like that.

(Then Laurie sees Ben)

Laurie: So squirt, did you make mother a card for her birthday?

(Ben hangs his head and looks very ashamed)

Ben: Not yet!

(A loud croaking has Laurie jumping backwards)

Laurie: Do you still have that ridiculous frog in your pocket?

Ben: He's not ridiculous, he's practically family!

(Ben pulls Ralph out of his pocket. Ralph nearly jumps out of his hands, but Ben catches him)

Laurie: Yeah, I see the resemblance. I don't understand why Mom and Dad allow that thing in the house in the first place. Why couldn't you have settled for a dog?

(Laurie exits to her room)

John: You better get started on that card.

Ben: I know, only...I want to get her something, too like you guys did.

John: You're such a baby; you should have saved your allowance instead of spending it on candy. Like you always do. Just make her a card. She always likes it. She won't expect much from you.

Ben: But I don't want to give her a card.

John: Tough, kid. It's a little late to be thinking about anything else, don't you think?

Scene 2:

Narrator: By now, Ben is feeling very badly about not getting his mom something for her birthday, and he doesn't know what to do. He only knows he can't give her a card....again!

(Before Dad mows the lawn, Ben approaches him with his problem)

Ben: Dad, I want to get Mom something nice for her birthday. Do you have any ideas?

(His dad is busy, but he answers)

Dad: Why don't you make her a card? You know, draw her a picture? She always likes them.

Ben: But I always give her that. I'm too old for that, anymore.

Dad: Oh! I see. Well, you know Ben, real giving comes from the heart. If you want to give her a present, it should be something that means a lot to you. You know something you've put a lot of effort into. Like John made a birdhouse and Laurie saved her money to buy a blouse she wanted.

Ben: But Dad, I don't know how to make stuff, and I don't have any money.

Dad: I guess that's true. However, sometimes, giving means giving up the things you love or like the most. Like a sacrifice, you know, like we talked about in your Sunday School Class last week.

(Ben's eyes widened)

Ben: You mean like when Abraham was going to sacrifice Isaac.

(Dad smiles with understanding)

Dad: That's the general idea, but not that drastic, son. You see, a real gift is sacrificing for another person. Laurie gave up the money she saved from working at the dress shop, to buy the blouse, and John gave up a lot of his time to make the birdhouse, instead of playing ball. So you see, giving is sacrificing part of yourself for another.

(Ben walks off, scratching his head and thinking about what his father said)

Scene 3

Narrator: Ben is watching Amy Lynn O'Donnell play dolls in her garage next door. It's a known fact that Amy Lynn O'Donnell loves Ralph almost as much as Ben does. But the problem is, she wants to dress Ralph up like a doll. Ben cringes at the thought

Ben: This shouldn't happen to a frog!

(Ben walks over to Amy's garage, where she is playing)

Ben: Amy Lynn O'Donnell?

Amy: What do **you** want, Ben?

Ben: I want to make a trade.

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