

EXTRACT

The secret to making the perfect lasagna

a short play

by

Alex Broun.

PLEASE NOTE:

THIS PLAY SCRIPT HAS BEEN DOWNLOADED FROM www.alexbroun.com

BY AGREEING TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF www.alexbroun.com
AND PAYING THE DOWNLOAD FEE YOU ARE PERMITTED TO PERFORM
THIS PLAY ***ROYALTY FREE*** ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD FOR A PERIOD
OF 12 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF DOWNLOAD.

IF YOU DO PERFORM THIS PLAY PLEASE VISIT OUR **RECORD A
PRODUCTION** PAGE AND RECORD THE DETAILS OF YOUR PRODUCTION
SO YOUR PRODUCTION CAN BE LISTED AMONGST THE THOUSANDS OF
PRODUCTIONS OF ALEX'S WORK WORLDWIDE EVERY YEAR.

FOR ANY QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT THE AUTHOR ON
abroun@bigpond.net.au

Characters

NATHAN

WENDY

CAROL

CRESSIDA

MAY

JENNIFER

MONICA

VIOLET

JASMINE

The Secret to making the perfect lasagna

In spotlights – **NATHAN** and **WENDY**.

NATHAN: So she said yes. Which was a bit of a surprise.

WENDY: Yes I will come to your house for dinner.

NATHAN: Now this is a big event because 1. I've never actually had dinner with a girl and 2. Especially when my parents are away for the weekend. I'm not expecting anything to happen. I wouldn't even know what to do if something did happen but to just spend some time alone with her - Wendy Malvern, the cutest girl in school, in my opinion. But then she adds:

WENDY: Only if you promise to cook.

NATHAN: Cook? I can't cook.
(TO **WENDY**) "Sure, and what do you like to eat?"
Please say party pies, I know how to cook party pies. I cooked them for my seventh birthday. But then she says it – the death sentence:

WENDY: Lasagna.

NATHAN: Lasa – what ?

WENDY: My favourite food is home cooked lasagna.

NATHAN: And then she looks me in the eyes. She has these beautiful crystal blue eyes and she gives the final warning:

WENDY: And don't buy it frozen and re-heat it. I'll know – and I won't be happy. And you don't want to make me unhappy.

WENDY EXITS.

NATHAN: So she said yes – Wendy Malvern said she would come to my house for dinner. That's a positive and you've always got to focus on the positives. But LASAGNA ! How do you make lasagna? And not just any lasagna. This has to be the perfect lasagna.

CAROL: (ENTERS) The secret to making the perfect lasagna ...

NATHAN: So I decided to consult the experts. The women in my family. Luckily I have a very large family.

CAROL: Well if I told you then it wouldn't be a secret. Ha, ha.

NATHAN: Firstly I go to see cousin Carol. Her husband's Italian, Uncle Federico, she must know how to make lasagna.

CAROL: I suppose it wouldn't harm to share it with you ...

NATHAN TAKES OUT A NOTEPAD.

CAROL: but only a little!

NATHAN: Did I mention we call her "Crazy Cousin Carol"?

CAROL: My secret to making the perfect lasagna is to go down to this little Italian restaurant in the Marina ...

NATHAN: And?

CAROL: Buy one. Presto.

NATHAN: But I'm not allowed to buy it. It has to be homemade.

CAROL: Why?

NATHAN: I'm trying to impress a girl.

CAROL: And she's impressed by you making lasagne? Girls are very strange these days. (BEAT) Okay, go down to the little Italian restaurant in the Marina, buy a lasagna, remove it from the foil tray, put it in your own lasagna dish, pop a sprig of basil on top and voila! She'll never know the difference!!

NATHAN: Aunty Carol!

CAROL: What? Darling, I'm exhausted. Go ask Auntie Cressida.

CAROL EXITS.

NATHAN: I'm not sure why we call Auntie Cressida – Auntie.

LIGHTS UP ON **CRESSIDA**.

NATHAN: She wasn't my mum's sister. I don't think she was related to my mum at all.

LIGHTS UP ON **MAY**

NATHAN: She lived with Auntie May. She wasn't my Auntie either. But we called her Auntie too.

CRESSIDA: First and foremost:

MAY: The difference between a good lasagna –

CRESSIDA: and a great lasagna –

MAY: lies in the richness of the sauces –

CRESSIDA: and the subtle nuances of the herbs.

MAY: The bolognaise sauce needs to be brimming with full tomato flavour –

CRESSIDA: and a rich red colour that stains the plate.

MAY: To obtain this you have to use a lot of tomatoes.

CRESSIDA: By boiling down the liquid the flavour develops.

MAY: A bay leaf or two –

CRESSIDA: with a sprinkling of thyme –

MAY: will also give the sauce –

CRESSIDA: - a subtlety of aroma.

MAY: Attention to detail –

CRESSIDA: the tiniest things –

MAY: make the biggest difference.

CRESSIDA AND MAY PUT THEIR ARMS AROUND EACH OTHER'S SHOULDERS, LOVINGLY.

NATHAN: Thanks Auntie Cressida. Auntie May.

MAY AND CRESSIDA: Our pleasure dear.