

Celebrating Australian Playwriting



Australian Script Centre



Destination

by Samantha Graham

EXTRACT

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Cast List

Daughter- **Riley**- Smarter and wiser than her own parents, She is the most sensible member of the family.

Dad- Mr Campbell- **Rob**- A senseless man who attempts to organise his life and everything around it.

Mum- Mrs Campbell-**Sheryl**- An oblivious woman who is easy to please and take advantage of.

Son- **Talen**- Younger brother to Riley. Has no idea what is going on,

This play was selected for development work and a public reading as part of the 2007 Queensland Theatre Company Young Playwrights' Program.

Destination

Riley's life can become exhausting, especially when it comes time to pack for a road trip. Dealing with her senseless brother and paranoid parents, Riley introduces you to a family where conversations converge in hopeless entanglements and questions are constantly being asked. Discover the life of the Campbell family where your average cuppa tea is not what it seems.

Setting- The family kitchen, early in the morning, dimmed lights with one spot light overlooking a small red esky sitting on the kitchen table. Mr Campbell is frantically packing bottles and food items, trying to rearrange everything in sight

Riley enters observing Mr Campbell, Mr Campbell is unaware of Riley's presence

Riley to audience: This is my insane father, and that is his Esky, or as dad likes to call it, his portable thermo cooling device

Riley walks around Mr Campbell watching him re-pack the Esky

Riley to audience: He thought one time that by squirting some of the tomato sauce out of the bottle, into the sink, would make the bottle fit easier

Riley watches her father as he continues rearranging the items

Riley to audience: Dad will re- pack the esky five times

Riley watches and counts as he re-packs the esky

Riley: That's one

Enter Mrs Campbell carrying random items and bottles of wine, piling them on top of one another. She continues to carry on pillows, blankets and sleeping bags, dumping on the kitchen table

Riley to audience: Oh and this is my mother, Sheryl, or as her Tupperware friends like to call her, Sherry. Mum suggested we buy a larger esky a few years ago, but dad was certain that...

Mr Campbell: The construction of this model is exceptional as it is made up of two layers: Polypropylene on the outer shell, with a polyurethane inner layer. This makes it lightweight and portable with great insulation. It's a one of a kind

Riley to audience: Even though it was a freebe with a three-pack of beer, like six years ago...yeah I know right, beer, coming in a pack of three? No wonder they threw in a free esky

Riley to audience: Oh, and then we have Talen, my annoying brother, who spends most of his time sleeping, eating, or playing with (*Riley pulls out a lizard of her pocket*) Fargo. His pet lizard, you will have the unfortunate pleasure of meeting him later on in the play

Mr Campbell (yelling): Sheryl, how do you expect me to fit eight bottles of wine in the portable thermo cooling device?

Mrs Campbell (yelling from off stage): Make it seven