

Celebrating Australian Playwriting



Australian Script Centre



Bed

by Brendan Cowell

EXTRACT

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**I recommend Phil be played by the one actor.
BC.**

1.Kane and Phil.

Kane has a knapsack on. They are not touching.

KANE: When does your mother come home?

PHIL: Four.

KANE: Where is she?

Pause.

KANE: At work?

PHIL: Nup. She doesn't have work.

KANE: What does your mother do with her week then?

Pause.

KANE: The house?

PHIL: Nup. I do the house.

KANE: Well what does she do?

PHIL: Monday salon, Tuesday Avon, Wednesday the Club: meat raffle. Thursday she has the policeman over, Friday shandies with the girls.

KANE: Busy woman.

PHIL: Yeah, so capable.

Pause.

KANE: Does your dad know?

PHIL: About the shandies?

KANE: No, the policeman.

PHIL: Probably. Maybe not. Don't know. I don't think he'd care anyway. Whatever shuts her up.

KANE: She does natter on a bit.

PHIL: She could talk with a mouth full of tyres.

KANE: I hate mums.

PHIL: Mums are shit.

KANE: They should be wiped out, after you get bored of breastfeeding. Shove 'em all on an island and give 'em a small bucket of rice so's they all slowly fade out. Just have dads. Dads are sick.

PHIL: Dads are wicked.

KANE: Yeah.

Kane lies down, staring at Phil. Pause.

KANE: Can I take my knapsack off?

PHIL: I don't care. If you want to.

Kane takes his knapsack off. Pause.

PHIL: You know what they call poofers in French?

KANE: Le Faggot?

PHIL: Nup. Resplendissant.

KANE: Yeah?

PHIL: Resplendissant.

KANE: Cool. Why do you know that?

PHIL: Don't know. Just know... Just do.

Pause.

KANE: Do you reckon school will find us out?

PHIL: Find us out what?

KANE: That we both wag every Tuesday.

PHIL: It's sports day, no one notices. They're all too busy hitting balls and smashing each other. Anyway, just look sick all the time.

KANE: Easy for you to say.

PHIL: Get lost.

KANE: Can we do *the thing* now?

Pause.

PHIL: You first.