

"I Forgot" from Wrinkles

Greg Evans





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I FORGOT

A Five Minute Comedy

(Excerpted from the full-length musical, WRINKLES)

By
Greg Evans

CAST

JUNE: A cheerful, positive woman who faces the challenges of aging with good-natured grace.

HANK: June's husband of 40 years, he tends to be pessimistic about getting old.

ARLENE: A brassy gal with a big personality.

LARRY: Arlene's hubby. Colorfully dressed, he's Mr. Comedy.

Setting: HANK and JUNE's apartment in a senior residence. HANK and JUNE sit at a small table, playing poker. They each have a stack of Ritz crackers, or similar, that they're using as money.

JUNE: Are you going to hold?

HANK: Yes. And I'll raise you three crackers. *(He adds 3 crackers to a small pile in the center of the table)*

JUNE: Ok. I'll see your three and raise you two. *(She adds 2 crackers. Hank puts down his cards)*. Oh, you're folding? Getting too rich for you, huh?

HANK: I'm sorry, June, but playing poker for crackers just isn't very stimulating.

JUNE: It was your idea.

HANK: It was a dumb idea.

JUNE: Ok. What would be stimulating? Want to finish the crossword puzzle?

HANK: No. I can't remember half the stuff I used to know.

JUNE: Hank, you were a school teacher for 40 years. I'm sure it's all still up there in the old attic.

HANK: Maybe so. But I've lost the ladder.

JUNE: *(looking at her watch)* Well, Jeopardy's on. We could watch that.

HANK: Okay.

(HANK picks up a TV remote. Both look forward at the "TV" as HANK begins pushing buttons. Nothing's happening.)

HANK: Is this the TV remote or the VCR remote?

JUNE: I thought we got rid of the VCR. Don't we have a CD now?

HANK: You mean a DVD. We have an HD DVD.

JUNE: Ohhh! *That* clears it up.

HANK: *(squinting at the remote)*: All these itty bitty buttons. Who designs this stuff, Leprechauns? *(push, push)* Ah! There we go. I had it in "A" mode instead of "B" mode.

JUNE: That's the trouble with life nowadays. Too many "modes."

HANK: Ok, let's see... how do I get to the program guide... *(pointing and pushing and looking)* Um... menu... submenu... options.

JUNE: That's not it.

HANK: Yes, dear. I see that's not it. *(More button pushing)* Ah! We've got something!

SFX: *"The Munsters" Theme.*

JUNE: "The Munsters." How nice.

HANK: Hold on...(push, push)

SFX: *Female moaning. They stare wide-eyed at the TV for a moment, then:*

JUNE: Is that the Playboy Channel? *(No response from HANK--he's staring.)* Hank.
Hank!

HANK: Right! Okay, let's see...(push, push) There! "Jeopardy"!

JUNE: My hero. *(They stare a moment, then:)* Where's the sound?

HANK: Sound. Right. Let's see...(He peers at the remote) Let's try this.

(HANK points, presses....there's a beat as they both stare at the TV.)

JUNE: Did you intend to turn off the TV?

HANK *(Slamming down the remote)*: Yes!

(LARRY and ARLENE enter)

LARRY: Did I just hear moaning?

ARLENE: Ooo! Are we interrupting something? Huh?

JUNE: No. We were just watching TV. Come on in.

HANK: Hi, Larry. Hi, Arlene.

LARRY: We're on our way to Lunchtime Bingo in the clubhouse. Wanna come?

HANK: Wait--Larry, when I talked to you on the phone earlier, you said you had an appointment today at noon.

LARRY: It's tomorrow. *(To ARLENE)* I TOLD you it was tomorrow. But you kept sayin' "It's TODAY, it's TODAY!" *(To HANK)* But it's Friday.

HANK: Isn't today Wednesday?

JUNE: It's Thursday.

ARLENE: Are you SURE today's not Friday? Where's a calendar?

(HANK goes to get a calendar.)

LARRY: It's Thursday cuz today is "Bingo Thursday" at the clubhouse.

ARLENE: They have Bingo EVERY day. How do you know it's not "Bingo Friday"?

LARRY: Because yesterday was "Bingo Wednesday."

HANK: Ok, here's a calendar.

(They all gather 'round, look at the calendar. After a beat...)

HANK: Does anyone know today's date?

LARRY: Yeah. Right there. Thursday the 12th.

HANK: I could have sworn it was Wednesday the 11th.

ARLENE: Ha! It's neither! *(Pointing at calendar)* This calendar's a year old!

(They all look at the calendar.)

HANK: Wow. We just lost an entire year. Guess our brains are getting a little dull.

LARRY: Yeah. Sometimes I forget how often to take my One-A-Day vitamin.

ARLENE: Yesterday I ran into my foot doctor--could NOT remember his name. So I said, "Everything's GREAT down there!" Turned out he was my OB/GYN.

(They all laugh.)

HANK (*Pointing at his shoulder*): See these flecks? Dead brain cells fallin' outta my ears. (*He brushes his shoulder*) There goes 1989.

(*HANK and LARRY look at the flecks fall to the floor.*)

LARRY: That was a good year.

JUNE: I wrote a poem about memory loss. It's called "I Forgot."

ALRENE: Ooh! Can we hear it?

JUNE: Sure. Except I forgot where it is...

LARRY: Do you remember any of it?

JUNE: Oh... let's see...

We get old and we get slow
And our brains get creaky
We forget the things we know
Cuz our heads are leaky.

ARLENE: Good so far!

JUNE:

Now I'm getting way off track
I knew this yesterday.
Wait! I think it's coming back...

(*A pause as all look expectantly at JUNE*)

... Nope, it went away.

LARRY: Darn!

JUNE: It went:

Something, something
Blah, blah, blah
Something, something
I forgot.

HANK: Makes perfect sense to me.

ARLENE:

Does this happen to you all?
You're looking through a drawer
Suddenly you can't recall
What you're lookin' for!

LARRY:

I was takin' a stroll and what'd I see?
A girl gave me a glance!
She smiled and then she said to me,
"Hey, grampa, where's your pants?"

HANK:

I read all the morning news
Forget it all by lunchtime.

LARRY:

I know lots of funny jokes
But can't recall the punchlines

ARLENE:

Oh, well. We're gettin' slow
Our brains are turnin' rusty
Things upstairs that used to shine
Have gotten kinda dusty.

JUNE:

But memory loss can work for you!
I use this trick a lot.
When there's something you don't wanna do
Just say...

ALL:

I forgot!

END OF FREEVIEW--You'll want to read and perform this show!