

# The Closet

A Short Domestic Comedy  
By  
Brian Price

Approx: 10 Minutes

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Description

10 minutes

*The Closet* works really well, because we've all got a closet in our lives somewhere. The Boogy Man is a fun part, because you get to eat corn chips (the sound of eating shoes) and try to speak your lines at the same time. Cheryl is an interesting character, because one has to decide just how much she knows about what's really in the closet—makes a difference on how she says her final line, "Maybe so."

Cast

Rick: Regular guy

Cheryl: Regular wife who is probably a little bit smarter than the regular guy

Boogy Man: A big boomy-voiced guy. Probably kind of smelly.

Wanda: Can have a sexy voice in a number of different ways—husky Mae West or whispery Marilyn Monroe or the girl-next-door—I don't know who that is, I'm not from your town.

# THE CLOSET

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**MUSIC**

**OPENING MUSIC**

SFX

LOUD SLAM OF DRAWER OR DOOR

RICK: (SIGHS) I don't think we have a choice.

CHERYL: Oh, Rick, there must be something else we can do. Let's just stay calm and go back over it all once more. There must be a place we haven't looked. Maybe there's something we've missed.

RICK: Cheryl, you know what we've missed. And you know what this has come down to. I'm gonna have to do what I should've done a long time ago. I'm gonna look in the closet.

**MUSIC**

**DRAMATIC STING**

CHERYL: No, Rick. Not the closet, no. Please. It's not worth it.

RICK: It's the only thing to do. I've got to go in.

CHERYL: But it's so dangerous.

RICK: Dear, that's the chance I'll have to take.

CHERYL: Alright, alright. If you feel you have to go. If you feel you have to be Mr. Macho Explorer. Mr. Big Time. Well—

RICK: Ah, Cheryl. I'm not trying to be noble or brave or nothing, but we both know deep down that we can't go on like this. No, this time I'm going in.

1 CHERYL: Well, well, what if there's an avalanche? What  
2 if—  
3  
4 RICK: (STERNLY) I know how to take care of myself.  
5  
6 CHERYL: Ok, but please, just do as I ask -- take this  
7 flashlight, and take the walkie-talkie, and take  
8 out the garbage. Who knows when you'll  
9 return. (STARTS TO CRY)  
10  
11 RICK: Come on, honey. Don't be silly. I'll be back in  
12 no time. Remember, I'm doing this -- for the  
13 both of us.  
14  
15 CHERYL: I know, I know, but try to keep in constant  
16 radio contact and tie this rope around your  
17 waist. There. Too tight?  
18  
19 RICK: Ooof, (GASP) No, fine. Ok, ok. I'm ready.  
20 (QUICK KISS) Goodbye. Wish me luck.  
21  
22 CHERYL: Oh, please, be careful.  
23  
24 SFX GIANT SOUND OF DOOR CREAKING OPEN, SLAMS  
25 SHUT, WIND.  
26 OPEN ECHO EFFECT - (RECORD RICK IN EMPTY  
27 HALL)  
28  
29 RICK: Wow, that door slammed hard.  
30  
31 SFX SHAKE JAMMED DOOR HANDLE  
32  
33 RICK: Huh, must be jammed. Oh, well, I better get  
34 moving. Huh, how about that - there's my  
35 racketball racket and my bowling ball. I'll  
36 hafta try that stuff again sometime.  
37  
38 SFX CRUNCH, SNAP  
39

1 RICK: Ouch, I think I twisted my ankle. I keep  
2 stepping on shoes and wodded up sweaters in  
3 here - discarded, worn out, old unforgiven  
4 shoes - I bet each shoe has its own story -- a  
5 story of life on the outside, longing to be that  
6 favorite pair of shoes. (LAUGHS A LITTLE)  
7 Who am I kidding? None of these shoes will  
8 ever see the light of day - ever again.

9

10 SFX BOING, BUMP, SMASH

11

12 RICK: Ouch! Darn it. What's that? Better get the  
13 flashlight out here. Looks like a box full of  
14 trophies. Can't quite make it out--looks like  
15 it's inscribed to Cheryl - says 3rd place -  
16 August 2nd, 1982 - Community Leadership  
17 through Aerobics. Gee, I'm surprised she  
18 doesn't have this out on the mantle - that's  
19 something to be really proud of.

20

21 CHERYL: (OVER WALKIE-TALKIE - TALK THROUGH  
22 CUPPED HAND) Breaker, breaker, come in,  
23 Rick, do you read me, Rick?

24

25 RICK: I read you loud and clear, over.

26

27 CHERYL: How's it going? Any luck? What do you want  
28 for dinner? Over.

29

30 RICK: OK, no, pizza. Over. Oh, Cheryl?

31

32 CHERYL: Yes, Rick.

33

34 RICK: I need a positive I.D. on a crocheted raincoat.

35

36 CHERYL: Does it have kind of yellowish stripes with a  
37 purple beaver pattern all over it? Over.

38

39 RICK: Affirmative. Over.

40