



Hello! Thank you so much for tuning in to Beckett's Babies. We are so happy that you joined us! Every episode, we would love to attach a playwriting exercise that we love or find helpful as a resource so that you can go forth and start writing your own play! Below is a playwriting exercise inspired by this week's episode with your hosts, Sam Collier and Sarah Cho. Grab a notebook and a pen, let's get started!

ENDINGS

Sometimes, when you get stuck trying to start a play, it's fun to write backwards. In other words, you can start with the final moment of the play and write the scene before that and the scene before that, all the way until the beginning of the play.

So here's an ending for you.

JEREMY is fast asleep on the dining room table. Around him are open bags of potato chips, a mostly-demolished sheet cake, and some deflated balloons. It is midmorning.

GABBY enters, sighs loudly.

GABBY

Jeremy. JEREMY!

JEREMY wakes up.

JEREMY

What?

GABBY gestures at the table.

JEREMY

Oh.
Okay. Yep.

GABBY

Thank you.

GABBY exits.

JEREMY slowly begins to clean up the mess. As he does so, he dials a number on his cell phone, listens to it ringing, hears the voicemail recording.

JEREMY

Hi Shawn. It's me. It's about 10:30. I'm wondering if you can meet me in half an hour...

BLACKOUT
END OF PLAY.

Now your job is to write the scene before that. And then the scene before that. And so on, until you reach a satisfying beginning.

Good luck!