

Happy Everything Works Out Fine Day!

---

A short play

By Mark Chrisler

Presented free for use by non-profit  
and/or educational groups.  
Please credit "Mark Chrisler" as  
author in promotional materials and  
programs.

For professional presentation rights  
or questions...

Contact:

Mark Chrisler

[markchrisler@gmail.com](mailto:markchrisler@gmail.com)

[www.markchrisler.com](http://www.markchrisler.com)

HAPPY 'EVERYTHING WORKS OUT FINE' DAY!

GEORGE

Oh, you're here. I thought you'd be at work. You haven't... Have you seen Billy?

CINDY

I got laid off.

GEORGE

I'm sorry.

CINDY

It's okay. On my way out the building I ran into a man who offered me a sales job. Twice the money.

GEORGE

Well. Happy Everything Works Out Fine Day.

CINDY

Happy Everything Works Out Fine Day.

GEORGE

This used to be my favorite holiday.

CINDY

Used to be?

GEORGE

It's gotten too tense. It's one thing to have everything work out fine, but sometimes it's just so hard to see. In the moment. How that could be true. I've spent all day going "how can this work out?" I even asked Billy this morning, when I went to get him out of bed. "How is this going to work out fine, Billy?" I asked him.

CINDY

Please. Don't bother Billy with our problems. The last thing I want in the world is for Billy to be hurt or confused by our issues. How could you ask him that?

GEORGE

Well, I don't know. I just did.

CINDY

And what'd he say?

GEORGE

Nothing. He didn't say anything. I'm telling you, this holiday's too much for me. The tension. Like, I saw a window washer today. His rope broke. Maybe forty floors up.

CINDY

You saw that?

GEORGE

I did. And while he was falling--while I was watching him fall--I wasn't thinking... oh, well; it's Everything Works Out Fine Day, so don't worry about it. What I thought was "oh my God, that man's going to die." And I'm sure that's what he was thinking, too. It's too much.

CINDY

Did he?

GEORGE

Did he?

CINDY

Die?

GEORGE

Of course not. His fall was broken by this woman. Both of them unharmed. Miraculously. And so he's lying on top of her, after the fall... they're both sort of recovering, right? And they look one another in the eyes and, on cue and in sync, say "I love you."

CINDY

That's a sweet story.

GEORGE

But what about the fall? That's still scary. I've spent most of today wondering how it all works out.

CINDY

Me too.

GEORGE

Really? What?

CINDY

I think you should sit down. See, I've been waiting a while. For this day. To tell you something. Because I don't see how it can work out fine. But it will. That's the trick, right?

GEORGE

That's what I'm saying, but sometimes it doesn't seem possible....

CINDY

I'm leaving you.

GEORGE

Oh. Have you talked to Billy?

CINDY

No. I thought we could tell him together. We both know it isn't working. Hasn't been working. A long time now.

GEORGE

No, no. You're right.

CINDY

And I still love you. In my way. But it's not there.

GEORGE

Is there someone else?

CINDY

No. But... it's worse. Because I often wish their were. And that can't stand; can't be how I am. Always wishing there was someone better, waiting for something to come along. I know you know what I mean.

GEORGE

I do.

CINDY

Yeah. So. I think it'll be better. Or at least not as bad. I just can't live this way anymore.

GEORGE

Well, it's tough. Sure. But I think you're right. I think it'll be better. We've both known that, a long while now. It's just a matter of who would say it first.

CINDY

Right.

GEORGE

So, why wait for Everything Works Out Fine Day?

CINDY

Because it's not about us, George. It's about Billy. I don't want Billy to have to know about this. I don't want him to have to come to grips with his parents not being together, not loving each other. Blaming himself, never trusting love as he grows up... all of it. So how, huh? How can Everything Works Out Fine Day fix that?

GEORGE

Cindy. You don't have to worry about that.

CINDY

No?

GEORGE

Have you tried talking to Billy?

CINDY

Sometimes, yeah. But it doesn't seem fair to confide in him.

GEORGE

No, Cindy, you don't understand. What I mean is... have you tried talking to Billy *today*?

CINDY

No...

GEORGE

I think *you* should sit down. Cindy. Billy had an aneurism. This morning.

CINDY

What?

There's been a lot of damage. He's alive, but we won't have to worry about him blaming himself, about him being hurt by our problems. Ever again.

CINDY

Oh my God.

GEORGE

I know, I know.

(a moment)

Happy Everything Works Out Fine Day.