



THE BUTTERFLY

By Scott Cartwright

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THE BUTTERFLY

A Short Play Written By Scott Cartwright

Synopsis – On a small bench in an open field, twins, Sarah and Kayleigh, are discussing a very strange and difficult concept. Despite being difficult, there's always a glimmer of hope, but will the girls be able to find it and embrace it?

Characters

Kayleigh – Fourteen, oldest twin by a few minutes.

Sarah – Fourteen, youngest twin by a few minutes.

APPROX RUN TIME – 5 - 8 Minutes

Disclaimer, this play is dedicated to my high school friend Jay Demetriou who lost his battle with Burkitt's Lymphoma on 8th October 2013 aged only 13 years old and any money raised from this piece, I wish to be donated to the Make A Wish foundation in memory of Jay and to support his family.

Secluded, early in the morning.

KAYLEIGH is sat on the bench whilst SARAH is sat on the grass. They both sit in silence. KAYLEIGH takes a very deep breath of air.

KAYLEIGH It's nice.

SARAH Huh?

KAYLEIGH Sitting out here. Look out there. What do you see?

SARAH The sunrise.

KAYLEIGH Exactly. Isn't it just gorgeous?

SARAH I suppose.

KAYLEIGH The Butterfly Effect.

SARAH What?

KAYLEIGH The Butterfly Effect? You know, the idea that if you put something good in, you'll always get something back. Take that charity we saw on the way here for example.

SARAH Yeah? What about it?

KAYLEIGH Well, I gave them £20 to support their cause, didn't I?

SARAH Yeah? I still don't get it, what good is that going to do for you?

KAYLEIGH The knowledge that they're going to use it to help other people. That's all I need.

SARAH Right?

THEY PAUSE. KAYLEIGH PULLS A BAG OF SWEETS FROM HER BAG.

KAYLEIGH Sweet?

SARAH No thanks.

KAYLEIGH You sure?

SARAH I'm not hungry.

KAYLEIGH TAKES A SMALL HANDFUL.

KAYLEIGH You know, Dad brought me up here once. Told me that I could be absolutely anything I wanted to be. I thought he was lying. Making it up so I wouldn't stop dreaming, but dreams do come true, you know? You've just got to believe in it.

SARAH This isn't a fairy tale, Kayleigh.

KAYLEIGH That's not what I meant. Look, the only person who has any control over your life is you. Look at me for example. I try to give as much as I can to the world in so little time, because even though I'm only fourteen, like you, my time could come at any point.

SARAH Right.

KAYLEIGH Do you ever get the feeling of hope?

SARAH Hm?

KAYLEIGH You know, like there's always a light at the end of the tunnel? When things seem bleak, there's always a positive outcome?