

How Do I Feel Like Home? by Jeffrey Lo

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By Jeffrey Lo

Written as Part of THE 2018 PROJECT

To read the 365 plays in THE 2018 PROJECT, visit:

<http://www.jeffreywritesaplay.com/the-2018-project-365-plays>

CHARACTERS:

Kail

Bethany

If you are interested in sharing or performing this play or any of the plays in THE 2018 Project individually or in a collection, please contact the playwright at:

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*Lights up on BETHANY in her office at work.
Her cell phone rings.
She answers it.*

BETHANY: Kail?

Lights up on her son KAIL.

KAIL: Hey Ma.

BETHANY: How is my boy?

KAIL: Oh, you know. Tired.

BETHANY: You must be working hard.

KAIL: Not too hard.

BETHANY: WHY NOT TOO HARD!? YOU ARE IN COLLEGE NOW!

KAIL: I know, I know. I'm kidding.

BETHANY: You better be doing good.

KAIL: I'm trying!

BETHANY: I'm working extra to pay for your schooling.

KAIL: I know ma, I know...

BETHANY: Good.

They laugh together.

BETHANY: Why did you call, Kail?

KAIL: Oh... I don't know...

BETHANY: Is everything ok?

KAIL: Yeah! Yeah. Of course.

BETHANY: I don't believe you.

KAIL: No, I promise. Everything is fine...

BETHANY: Then why did you say it like that?

KAIL: What?

BETHANY (*Mocking KAIL*): Everything is fine...

KAIL: I do not talk like that.

BETHANY: Kind of.

KAIL laughs.

BETHANY: Are you sure you're ok?

KAIL: Yeayeah...

BETHANY: Ok...

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Silence.

KAIL: I'm just a little homesick... Homesick is all.

BETHANY: Oh... you miss mama?

KAIL: I miss home. Why do you make it all about you?

BETHANY: Mama is a part of home!

KAIL: I know you are! But you're not all of it.

BETHANY: Oh, ok, I better go then –

KAIL: No! Please. Stay.

Pause.

BETHANY: I miss you too.

KAIL: Yeah...

BETHANY: You haven't called very much!

KAIL: I know. Sorry...

BETHANY: Why do you feel homesick now?

KAIL: I don't know, actually. I don't think anything did it. It just... happened, maybe? I don't know. I just wish I was home right now...

BETHANY: Do you not like it at school?

KAIL: No, I do... I do... I just... would rather be home at this particular moment.

Pause.

KAIL: Ma.

BETHANY: Yes?

KAIL: How do I feel like home right now? Can you help me feel like I'm home...?

Pause.

BETHANY: Use your imagination, Kail... Imagine your cousins coming over for a party.

KAIL: The food everyone brings...

BETHANY: The TV.

KAIL: The karaoke! The young ones playing Fortnite...

BETHANY: And Mama...

KAIL: Mama...

BETHANY: Mama, hugging you...

Pause.

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BETHANY: Just imagine mama hugging you...

END OF PLAY.