

Blood Brothers by Willy Russell

*MICKEY is sitting, alone, on stage. Eddie enters full of Christmas cheer and excited to see his friends after his first term away at university.*

MICKEY:

Nothin's wrong. How's University? Good. Linda? Yeah she's OK.

There are no parties arranged. There is no booze or music. Christmas? I'm sick to the teeth of Christmas an' it isn't even here yet. See, there's very little to celebrate Eddie. Since you left I've been walking around all day, every day, lookin' for a job.

It disappeared. Y'know something', I bleedin' hated that job, standin' there all day never doin' nothin' but put cardboard boxes together. I used to get... used to get terrified that I'd have to do it for the rest of me life. But, but after three months of nothin', the same answer everywhere, nothin', nothin' down for y', I'd crawl back to that job for half the pay and double the hours. Just...just makin' up boxes it was. But after being rejected from everywhere, it seems like it was paradise.

You don't understand anythin' do y'? Tilt my hat to the world? I don't wear a hat that I could tilt to the world.

No I don't want your money. Stuff it. Eddie, just do me a favour and piss off will y'?

Blood brothers? That was kids stuff Eddie. Didn't anyone tell ya? But I suppose you still are a kid, aren't y'?

Yeah you're exactly the same age as me and you're still a kid. An' I wish I could be as well Eddie, I wish I could still believe in all that blood brothers stuff. But I can't, because while no-one was looking I grew up. An' you didn't, because you didn't need to; an' I don't blame you for it Eddie. In your shoes I'd be the same, I'd still be able to be a kid. But I'm not in your shoes, I'm in these, lookin' at you. An' you make me sick right? That was all just kids stuff Eddie, and I don't want to be reminded of it. Right? So just, just take yourself away. Go and see your friends and celebrate with them. {pause} Go on...beat it before I hit y'.