

## AUDITION NOTICE

### The Real Eddie Spencer by Keith Orton

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<b>Play reading</b>	Tuesday 23 November 2021 at 8pm in the Studio
<b>Audition</b>	Sunday 5 December 2021 at 2pm in the Theatre
<b>Rehearsals commence</b>	Monday 21 February 2022 Rehearsal nights - Monday, Wednesday & Thursday (with some Sunday afternoons once in the theatre)
<b>Performances</b>	14-23 April 2022 at 8pm - Matinée 23 April at 2.30pm

When is the right time to tell the truth? In the touching comedy/drama, Eddie has a secret that he is dying to tell to his estranged son Rob who he hasn't seen for over twenty years. Even the fact Rob now lives in Perth, Australia isn't going to be a barrier to him revealing his true self. Or is it? Themes are mercilessly pinched and reconfigured from Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* in this brand new play, having its very first production here at the Miller Centre.

*Please note that the only character which will require an Australian accent is Thomas.*

#### Characters

##### **Rob Spencer (playing age 35)**

Rob is the financial consultant, son of the title character, Eddie. His father left the family home when he was a young boy and he was consequently brought up by his mother. He has never really forgiven his father for his parent's separation. He has very similar traits to his father, mainly stubbornness and therefore the drama centres around both men trying to work through their supposed differences. He's a modern man who wants a family of his own. *AUDITION PIECE - Page 65 Eddie says "I've kept things from you for far too long" to Page 67 where 'Rob gives Eddie a hug and gets up to collect his things'*

##### **Lucy Spencer (playing age 34)**

Lucy is the GP wife of Rob. A caring, supportive, strong figure who is very sensitive and perceptive with people and the drama around her. She acts as a confidant to Eddie, trying to encourage both, father and son, to talk openly about how the family was separated when Rob was a young boy. Lucy can see the similarities in the men and is very much the linchpin and reason, Rob and his father reconcile. She too though is grappling with a personal issue, as she is struggling to become pregnant. *AUDITION PIECE - Page 5 Rob says "I'm sorry" to Page 7 Lucy says "Is it?"*

**Eddie Spencer (playing age 67)**

Rob's father, a retired teacher. Eddie is not a well man. He arrives in Australia to spend what could be his last Christmas with his estranged son, Rob and wife. He's clearly struggling physically (he enters in a wheelchair and uses a stick to move around) and then his mentality is questioned as he sees people from the past and future whilst striving to repair his fractured relationship with his son. He's a lovely guy who had to make some difficult decisions concerning his family. Eddie rarely goes off stage so this is a large, yet rewarding role. *AUDITION PIECE - Page 65 Eddie says "I've kept things from you for far too long" to Page 67 where 'Rob gives Eddie a hug and gets up to collect his things'*

**Sarah Spencer (playing age 58)**

Eddie's ex-wife. Sarah arrives very unexpectedly, giving Eddie a fright he could do without! Sarah likes to hold a grudge and has never forgiven 'Edward' for leaving Rob and herself all those many years ago. There's an element of bitterness and denial in her character. She could be seen as coming across a bit melodramatic and this will require careful handling. Deep down she was heartbroken but she'd hate to admit it and likes to remind Eddie that she soldiered on, bringing up Robert whom she feels suffered the most. *AUDITION PIECE Top of Page 10 Sarah says "I'm surprised this was still in it's box" to Page 12 where 'Eddie crosses to the kitchen and tops up his glass of wine'*

**Jake Morley (playing age 37)**

Eddie's partner. Jake is definitely a blast from the past and provides us with some cracking comedy moments which are then balanced with tender, heartfelt reflections, giving us a glimpse into Eddie's past life. He's a handsome chap in his prime and described as being like the 'Teen Angel' in Grease. *AUDITION PIECE - Page 42 Eddie says "I lost my family once through bad decisions. Not anymore" to Page 43 Jake says "Here let me put it on you"*

**Thomas Spencer (playing age 8)**

Rob and Lucy's adopted son. Thomas, 'Tom', is a bubbly boy who loves Christmas and like all children, can't wait to open his presents on Christmas morning! He reminds everyone about the joy Christmas can bring to a family and the importance of having those you love around you. *AUDITION PIECE - Top of page 58 Thomas says "Who are you?" to the bottom of Page 59 - Tom reluctantly goes back to his room...*

**If you would like a copy of the script then please email either Natalie or Keith.**