

“CONDOLENCES” by Alexander Lee-Rekers (StageMilk, 2025)

BEN stands at the front door of his neighbour MARTHA's house, holding a tray wrapped in aluminium foil.

BEN: Didn't want to bother you. I just wanted to come and say...

He can't think of the right words

I- I brought... *(He holds up the tray.)* I'm sure you've got a full freezer at this point. I remember when Sandra passed, everybody showed up to feed me like I'd forgotten how to find the kitchen. Even now, I can't take something out of the fridge without thinking of those first, few, rough months. *(Pause.)* Maybe I should take this home.

Don't be a stranger. Yeah? I'm just across the way if you need me.

Performance Notes:

- *What is the relationship between Ben and Martha? Try mapping out their shared history before diving into this scene so you have some understanding of this interaction's context.*
- *Note that this monologue, while shot, has three distinct sections to it. We refer to these as 'beats': turning points in the action where a character realises something new or the circumstances change. What prompts these shifts? How can you signpost that for the audience?*
- *This scene refers to a prop: a covered tray of frozen food. Explore using this in the scene, but be careful of not making the tray too prominent in the action. Refer to it when needed, otherwise ensure that it doesn't draw focus.*