

A collection of monologues  
from the play

***True Love Travels on a Gravel Road***  
***by Jane Miller***

Character: Maggie, early 20's

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## ***ACT ONE SCENE ONE***

**MAGGIE:** None of this is my fault. It can't be. I wasn't even there. Where it happened. At home.

Shouldn't this wait until I can talk to Rodney? Rodney's always been the policeman. At home. He deals with everything. So maybe we should just wait. Because the thing is....I wasn't even there. So in a way. In some ways...it isn't even my business. It is, but it isn't.

It's just that I know everyone. There's probably no-one I don't know. That's why it's all been secret. Had to be. Everyone knows us.

Up until 2 years ago I lived in the same house all my life. With Mum. And Gran. Went straight from Mum's to married life. My wedding was huge. You could ask anyone.

I didn't know my father. I mean, I knew him. He's the local chemist. Rodney knows this. I just didn't know he was my father. The Chemist not Rodney. Not until my deb ball.

At my deb ball. Out of nowhere. Mum calls me over and says "Maggie. You know Mr Henderson? The Chemist? Well. . . He's your father."

And I thought. . . . "Really? Wish I'd known. I've bought so much makeup and hair stuff in his shop over the years". I'd spent heaps. No discount. Nothing. He didn't even come to my wedding. Mum walked me down the aisle. She was so

excited. She always wanted me to get married.

So when I had the chance I did.

I looked better than Ann-Margret at my wedding. I was a princess. Everyone said so. I bought all my makeup from Mr Henderson. Still no discount. Nothing. Mum was really proud of me on my wedding day.

She really hated mowing the lawn.

### ***ACT ONE SCENE THREE***

**MAGGIE:** The thing is. . . Elvis was a good actor. Like genuinely talented. Look at ‘Kissing Cousins. He played both cousins and, okay, so his hair was dyed blonde....it was his acting that made that film.

Blue Hawaii. And Love Me Tender. He was very versatile. People don’t appreciate that.

Do you know he bought strangers cars? I read that. That’s a special soul right there.

Have you ever heard him sing that song “Memories”? I had it at my wedding. I didn’t want any other song. Mum wanted me to have “Love Me Tender” but I said “no”. I want one song and one song only. And that was the one. Memories.

Did you know he made his last movie in 1969. That’s like a million years before I was even born..... He was a doctor. In love with a Nun. Star crossed.

I can relate to that. I know how that is. It’s

devastating. Heartbreaking. And you just can't think of anything else. When I love someone, I give them everything.

And I don't mean like just my body. I give them my mind. And that's bigger isn't it? Your body's just your body.... But your mind is... That's everything.

And It's not about your body. It's about your heart and everything you think and feel.

*(PAUSE)*

Mrs Henderson has had so much work done on her face and her body and I still don't even get a discount on my Maybelline.

### ***ACT TWO SCENE THREE***

**MAGGIE:** I always wanted to have a honeymoon. Trev and I went away after we got married to a caravan park called "VanOtel". It's about an hours drive away. Trevor chose it so I wouldn't have to drive far after the wedding. He was very drunk. Rodney breathalysed him. For fun. .28 by 9 o'clock.

I listened to the radio all night. He snores. Normally I don't mind but it was my wedding night. I was a princess. Ann Margret. Ursula Andress. I deserved more.

I just wanted something beautiful and that's not wrong, is it? It's normal to want something...else and if you share it with someone...It's nice if someone sees you. Really sees you... Sees who you really are.

It's just like "A Change of Habit". Mary Tyler Moore's a nun and she loves Elvis and she can't decide whether to leave the church and at the end she prays for guidance and you're not sure what she'll choose – God or Elvis. except I knew. I knew exactly what she'd choose. I knew.

And it's that choice that makes the whole thing so beautiful.

### ***ACT TWO SCENE SIX***

**MAGGIE:** She'd never have left the church. Never. Because that's what made her love for Elvis so beautiful. It was a dream.

An impossible dream. Her place was in the Church.

They shared something so special but it couldn't be. That's what all the greatest love stories are about. The pain, the obstacles, the impossibility of everything. A love that's impossible.

We were like Elvis and Barbara Eden in Flaming Star. And do you know ..... Elvis dies at the end of Flaming Star? So it's like it was meant to be. He saved and sacrificed himself. All for me.

Do you know what will happen to the Rubik's Cube? It meant so much to him so I'd love to have it. As a keepsake. I just wish it was something slightly smaller.

So I could wear it all the time. On a chain. I'd like it with me always but a Rubik's Cube is too big to

even keep under your pillow. Comfortably.

I shouldn't say this... With Trevor waiting for me...but I'll never forget Jake. I loved him. Part of me will always love him. With my whole heart.

Like Elvis and Priscilla. We can't be together but our love goes on.... It's just so beautiful. It means everything. Just everything

And you say a million things and make a million plans but it's a dream. A fantasy. And it's just so beautiful to share it with someone. But you know it's a dream. From the beginning.

We knew that. We did. I know we did.

***MAGGIE PAUSES FOR A MOMENT.***

You don't think any of this is my fault, do you?