

ESTHER JANE - MOTHER

~~START~~

(RANDY exits to the kitchen. RALPHIE comes down the stairs, crosses past MOTHER downstage, his head hanging low. As she starts a cross to the kitchen, there is a knock at the door. She crosses and opens it. It is ESTHER JANE.)

ESTHER JANE. Mrs. Parker, may I come in?

MOTHER. We're getting ready for dinner, Esther Jane, maybe you could come b ...

ESTHER JANE. It'll just take a minute.

MOTHER. Of course. Come in.

ESTHER JANE *(entering, she holds out RALPHIE's glasses)*. I thought Ralph might need these. He dropped them when he ... when they were ...

MOTHER *(accepting glasses)*. Thank you, Esther Jane. Would you like to speak to him? He ...

ESTHER JANE. No, that's all right. Oh, did you see the spider he gave me? He drew my name for the gift exchange.

MOTHER. It's a very nice spider.

ESTHER JANE. Usually, I don't like spiders. *(Pause.)* Well, I'd better go. Merry Christmas, Mrs. Parker!

MOTHER. Merry Christmas, Esther Jane.

~~STOP~~