

# **UMBWELLA**

**By  
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**CHARACTERS:**

**KYLIE:** *Little girl.*

**JACK:** *Little boy.*

**SETTING:**

*A school yard.*

*(Kylie sits on a bench with her teddy sitting beside her. She holds a parasol over them both, swings her legs and sings a song. Jack runs on chasing a ball. He stops when he sees her. They stare at each other for a while, then he pokes her tongue out at her. She returns the gesture. He starts to exit, then changes his mind. He points to the parasol.)*

**JACK:** What's that for?

**KYLIE:** Go 'way.

**JACK:** S'not raining.

**KYLIE:** Not for the wain.

**JACK:** What's it for, then?

**KYLIE:** The sun.

**JACK:** Ya don't get wet in the sun.

**KYLIE:** Shudup.

**JACK:** Why d'ya need a umberella in the sun?

**KYLIE:** S'not an umbwella, silly...it's a panadol.

**JACK:** S'not!

**KYLIE:** Is.

JACK: S'not, s'not, s'not!

KYLIE: Is, is, is!

JACK: Panadol's a tablet, dumb face. My Mum takes hundreds of 'em. I seen her.

KYLIE: Shudup.

JACK: That's a umberella.

KYLIE: A panadol's for the sun.

*(Jack plays with his ball for a moment, then resumes his interrogation.)*

JACK: Why d'ya wanna take the sun away?

KYLIE: 'Cos it burns your skin.

JACK: My mum puts creme on me.

KYLIE: Teddy can't use creme.

JACK: Why?

KYLIE: Mummy says it's too expensive for furry bears.

JACK: You could give him your hat.

KYLIE: Doesn't like hats. Besides, I have to wear it.

JACK: Why? You got a umberella.

KYLIE: S'not a umbwella!

*(He kicks the ball around a bit more.)*

JACK: Why aren't you playing? You sick?

KYLIE: Mummy says I'm not to run around.

JACK: Why?

KYLIE: I could fall over.

JACK: So what?

KYLIE: Last year I felled off the monkey bars.

JACK: Me too!

KYLIE: I got blood on my arm.

JACK: I broke my leg in two hundred places. My dad said he was gonna take Miss Farmer to the courts.

KYLIE: What for?

JACK: Dunno. Maybe play tennis with her or something. So that's why...that's when they banned the monkey bars. It was me!

*(He runs around triumphantly.)*

Me, me, me, me, me!

KYLIE: What's your name?

JACK: Jack. What's yours?

KYLIE: Kylie.

JACK: My cat's name used to be Kylie.

KYLIE: What is it now?

JACK: I don't have her no more.

KYLIE: Why?

JACK: She got runned over by a car.

KYLIE: My mummy says I'm not allowed on the road in case of cars.

JACK: I got runned over once.

KYLIE: Did not.

JACK: Did too! My Uncle Wayne was driving in our drive and he had ten beers on the way home and I was there...

KYLIE: My mummy says if you drink and drive...

KYLIE: }  
JACK: } You're a bloody idiot!

*(They both giggle.)*

- JACK: That's what my dad called Uncle Wayne and then he punched him really hard in the head.
- KYLIE: My mummy says people punch each other all the time and they should go to the police 'cos my Auntie Tracey got hit by my Uncle Kevin all the time and she didn't tell anyone ever...
- JACK: My dad got punched in the car once.
- KYLIE: Who punched his car?
- JACK: He was in the car and this other car tooted him and at the lights a big ugly man got out and they yelled at each other with naughty words and the man punched my dad.
- KYLIE: My daddy says you never should have your car doors open 'cos people can get you.
- JACK: And at the park, they get you there too.
- KYLIE: I never go to the park 'cos I got bit by a dog.
- JACK: I've got a dog called Biffo. He eats garbage and tries to dance with my mum's leg all the time.
- KYLIE: Why?
- JACK: My brother says he's trying to make puppies.
- KYLIE: How can your brother make puppies?
- JACK: No! Biffo's trying to make puppies, dumb head!
- KYLIE: We've got a labradoodle and she had five puppies once but we gave them away and now she's had a operation so she can't have anymore. My mummy says that's what happens when you sleep with boys too much, you get babies and then you have to get rid of them...
- JACK: I'm going to the beach tomorrow with my brother and my dad.
- KYLIE: I been to the beach.
- JACK: I bet you can't swim like me. I swim really fast.

- KYLIE: My mummy says it's too dangerous to swim at the beach, you can get caught in a rib.
- JACK: What's a rib?
- KYLIE: I think it's a bone in a big whale and if you get caught you can't get out and the whale eats you.
- JACK: I saw a shark once.
- KYLIE: Did not.
- JACK: Did! Did, did, did! It was three times as big as me and I swam really fast and got away. My dad says there are millions of 'em in the bay. And we're gonna go to Mackers on the way home.
- KYLIE: My mummy says we can't go there 'cos there's too much junk.
- JACK: S'not! A man comes and cleaned everything last time and I had three thousand burgers and a happy meal with Coke.
- KYLIE: Coke is bad for you. It has caftan and sugar and makes you run around too much. I only drink water and fruit juice.
- JACK: I have fanta and milk...
- KYLIE: I can't have milk 'cos I'm lactose intelligent...
- JACK: ...and beer and whiskey and vodka...
- KYLIE: You do not have beer!
- JACK: Do so! My Uncle Wayne had his twenty-first birthday party in our backyard and he gave me beer to drink, and then I drank everybody's beer and then I threw up and went to bed, and my daddy punched Uncle Wayne again.
- KYLIE: My mummy says alcohol is poisonous and you can die like if you breathe in someone's smoke from a cigarette too much.
- JACK: My Uncle Wayne says you have to die somehow so you may as well have fun 'cos you could die in a plane crash or a car crash or a train crash or/...
- KYLIE: My daddy's in prison.
- JACK: Why?

KYLIE: He stealed money from a milk bar so he could put food under the table.

JACK: Did he have a gun?

KYLIE: On TV they said the whole world is gonna to die soon 'cos it's getting warm and the South Pole is melting and the penguins are too hot and the air is full of smoke from chimneys...

JACK: My dad says the suicide terrorist in China will push a button and blow us up before then.

KYLIE: Or a big wave will come if you live too close to the beach and you'll all drown or either that or we won't have any water left and we'll die of that.

JACK: And the birds will make us sick with the flu and we'll turn into flesh-eating zombies and eat each other.

KYLIE: You're stupid.

JACK: Am not!

KYLIE: Am too!

JACK: You've got a stupid umberella on a hot day.

KYLIE: It's a panadol!

JACK: I'm gonna go. You shouldn't sit here 'cos a man with a gun will come and shoot you and everyone who's not moving fast like me.

KYLIE: Will not.

JACK: Will so! I saw it on the news in America and my dad says it'll happen here again like it did before in Tasmania.

KYLIE: Go 'way.

JACK: I'm gonna run so fast he can't get me and I'm gonna live to be a hundred and twenty-five years old.

*(There is the sound of the school bell. Jack goes to run off, then comes back.)*

That's the bell.

*(Pause)*

Aren't you coming in?

KYLIE: I want to be a hundred and twenty-five too.

JACK: You can if you want. My daddy says people will live longer and longer all the time 'cos they won't die from cancer and stuff so much.

*(She considers this for a moment.)*

KYLIE: Okay.

*(Jack runs off. Kylie gets down from the bench with Teddy in tow and skips off after him, singing a little song. Lights down.)*