

# JESSIE'S DREAM

by

The Students of Mud Lake

The play is about a man who is developing Labrador to its fullest potential, in doing so he is not using conservation methods. Portrayal of Labrador in the present, past and the future.

## CAST

Roberta Best  
Sevilla Hope  
Sandra (Dee) Hope  
Jennifer Best  
Virginia Hope  
Kimberly Best  
Glennys Best  
Michael Best



Mud Lake Elem.

By: Virginia  
Hope



## SCENE ONE

Jessie: Yeah, hello. Yeah this is me. Me, Jessie Martin. Yeah, and I was just looking over those files and I really don't like the plans you've got figured out for them. No, I don't. Yeah, that's the part, no I won't go along with that. Forget about anti-pollution controls, that will eat into our profit. What? Listen, I'm the boss of this operation and what I says goes. Now you got that? Good, good-bye!

Hello, is this the lumber company? Yeah, Martin here. Yeah, well I want to know how many cords of lumber you're cutting a day? .. Is that all, double it, no triple it, no, I don't care, I don't care if you cut down all the forest, that's what it's there for. Good-bye!

... of all the narrow-minded lazy bums in the world, I had to pick this one ...(looks at watch) - That blasted secretary is late again ...(dials another number) ... Yeah, hello, have you got that shipment sent out yet? You don't? Well, when are you sending it? Next week? I want it sent today, understand?! Right! (hangs up) ... That's the trouble with this province - "Don't do it today if you can do it tomorrow." Where's that secretary?

(Alice Webb, the secretary, walks in timidly)

Alice: I'm sorry I'm late, Mr. Martin, but I've just been to three of those meetings you wanted me to go to ...

Jessie: You should be sorry. Look - I pay you, and I pay you good. And I want a job well done. You understand?

Alice: Yes, Mr. Martin.

Jessie: Good. Now why don't you hightail it out to your own office and work, for a change. I've got people to call, deals to settle, tons of work..

Alice: (interrupting) Mr. Martin?

Jessie: What?

Alice: Well, I was just to that council meeting, and they're still awful upset about your new aluminum smelter. They're worried about the chemicals being dumped into the river.

Jessie: OOOon! I'm sick and tired of these people. Worried about this, worried about that. Look - give them a few thousand for the dirty old river and tell them - if they're not satisfied with that, call one of my associates, I don't want to hear about it!

Alice: Yes, Mr. Martin.



Jessie: Okay, now out you go ...

Alice: Uh - Mr. Martin ...

Jessie: What now?

Alice: The Indian Band Council still doesn't want a road going through the wilderness. They say it's going to drive all the caribou out of Labrador.

Jessie: Yeah? Well, you can tell them I don't care about the caribou. All I care about is getting that road built. What is this - the Dark Ages? Who ever heard of stopping a road from being built on account of a few lousy caribou? You tell the Indians they'll soon be able to get jobs on my oil rigs. Then they won't need the caribou anymore.

Alice: There's another thing, Mr. Martin.

Jessie: Now what?

Alice: The people in North West River still don't want a shopping mall there.

Jessie: Why not?

Alice: Well, they say that they like living in NWR. They're afraid they won't be able to once your shopping mall is completed.

Jessie: OOh! These people! Look - lie to them for me a bit. Tell 'em that once I get that mall built, there'll be all kinds of apartment buildings for them to live in. They'll have every modern convenience. Heck - all they've got now is a bunch of trees! They'll think they're in paradise once they've got Martin's Mall!

Alice: Yes, Mr. Martin.

Jessie: Now - is that all?

Alice: No, Mr. Martin

Jessie: What now?

Alice: The Fishermen's Union is complaining about the new oil spills off Cartwright.

Jessie: How I wish I could get that fishermen's union off my back! You know, I bring more money into Labrador in one day than they do in a month! Now, you tell me - who's helping Labrador more - me, or the Fishermen's Union?

Alice: Well, Mr. Martin ...

Jessie: (cuts her off) Never mind! Now - look, you can tell them that I can't help it if the oil spills happen. It's not my fault. If it's anyone's fault, it's those blasted workers I've got hired to do the job. At least I'm bringing new dollars, new business, new jobs into Labrador. That's more than any of them are doing.

Alice: Yes, Mr. Martin.

Jessie: Now, is that all?

Alice: No, I'm sorry ...

Jessie: Oh, for Pete's sake! What else?

Alice: Well, it's the people in Nain, Mr. Martin. They don't like your idea about turning it into a tourist attraction. And they don't want you to call it "Eskimo Village".

Jessie: What's wrong with having an "Eskimo Village" in Nain? Tourists will really go for that. Think what it'll do for the airplane industry, the coastal boats. We'll be able to build hotels and restaurants, hire tour guides, sell souvenirs.

I don't get these people. Just last month they were complaining about not having enough jobs. Look, Alice, you tell them - if they agree to "Eskimo Village", they'll be bringing lots of money into Nain. They'll be living good! Real Good!

You know, I'm getting sick and tired of all these people complaining about me. All I'm trying to do is make Labrador a better place. And all they're trying to do is ruin it for me. Well, if they don't like it they can - not like it. I'm going ahead with this, and you can tell 'em so.

Alice: But Mr. Martin, the people in Nain don't even call themselves Eskimos. They call themselves Inuit.

Jessie: Inuit, Shminuit! Who cares what they call themselves as long as it sounds good? American tourists won't even know what "Inuit" means. "Eskimo Village" - that's what's going to sell! Now - get out of here and answer these people for me. (Alice starts to leave) - And Alice -

Alice: Yes, Mr. Martin?

Jessie: See to it you're on time tomorrow. In fact, come in early. You owe me at least half an hour now.

Alice: (leaving, sighs) Yes, Mr. Martin.  
(Jessie returns to phone)

Jessie: Yeah, hello - is this the board office? Yeah, cancel that meeting for tonight. I'm feeling sick. Yeah, okay. Good-bye. (hangs up)

I think I'm coming down with something. Stupid secretary. You'd think she'd handle some of this small stuff herself. (Rises slowly from desk) I'm going home. (leaves)



## SCENE TWO

(Flats have been turned so that now we see a room with a door, a chair, lamp, and bed. A loud kicking is heard at the door. Butler enters room, opens door.)

Jessie: Now what took you so long?

Butler: I'm sorry, sir -

Jessie: Sorry. Everyone's always "sorry". I suppose you are going to make some excuse, like you were making the beds?...

Butler: No, sir ... Did you have a good day, sir?

Jessie: No, I didn't have a good day, and I don't want to talk about it! Now go and mix me a drink - my 'usual'. (Butler goes, quickly returning with drink)

Butler: Here you are, Mr. Martin. Will you have something to eat?

Jessie: I'm too aggravated to eat. I can't eat when I'm all tensed up like this - no, no supper tonight.

Butler: Will there be anything else, then, sir?

Jessie: Nooooo! Just go to your own room, and stay there! And no phone calls. I don't want anyone to bother me tonight.

Butler: Yes, Mr. Martin (leaves)

Jessie: (finishing off drink) I don't know what it is. You can't win. I try to improve Labrador, try to help people out, give 'em a better life - and all they do is throw dirt in my face. I'm sick and tired of fighting with everyone, all the time. It's like trying to drag Labrador into the 20th century all by myself. (finishes drink) I'm going to bed. (And he does)

(Jessie is sound asleep. Clock strikes one ... Ghost enters)

Ghost: Jessie! Jessie Martin!

Jessie: (mumbles and turns, still asleep) Mmmmm ... go to the next board meeting ....

Ghost: (moves a bit closer) Jessie Martin! Wake up, Jessie Martin!

Jessie: (turns over, opens eyes, lets out a yell) Who - Who are you?

Ghost: I am the Ghost of Labrador Past ....

..uh ..uh .. ehhh!! (huddles up, pulls quilt right up to nose, peeps over top) What do you want?

Ghost: I want you to come 'with me, Jessie .. (moves towards him, hand out-stretched).

Jessie: Stay away from me! Don't come any closer!

Ghost: Come with me, please. (holds out hand)

Jessie: No way! I'm not going anywhere with you. (shrinks back even further)

Ghost: Time is flying, Jessie, and I have something to show you.

Jessie: Oh, please, please, please go away! Go away!...

Ghost: Come, Jessie - you cannot hide from the past .. you've been ignoring the past all your life, Jessie ..

Jessie: I'm scared! What're you going to do to me?

Ghost: We haven't much time, Jessie ... Come ... (he leads him off stage, slowly, Jessie in great fear)

(Music to Walt Kippenhuck starts playing in background; set is rearranged; Carl starts slowly across stage, on snowshoes, pulling komatik that has a sack showing over the top. Music continues)

Ghost: Look over there, Jessie! What do you see?

Jessie: I, I don't know! What is it?

Ghost: A man is pulling a komatik. And in the komatik is a canvas sack.

Jessie: Wh -what's in the sack?

Ghost: Your great-grandfather is in the sack, Jessie. He is dead.

Jessie: Dead? Well, how come - what's he doing in a sack then? Why isn't he in a proper coffin?

Ghost: He lived out on the coast, Jessie, where there were no trees handy. And his family was too poor to buy him a coffin.

Jessie: Oh, my God! When - when did this happen? I never knew my great-grandfather!

Ghost: 85 years ago, Jessie .. and he was only 28 years old .. he left behind his wife and four young children.

Jessie: 28? But - what did he die of?

Ghost: The Spanish Flu, Jessie. It was once a great killer.

Jessie: He died of the flu? Who ever heard of someone dying of the flu? They've got all kinds of drugs to fight the flu?

Ghost: Not back in those days, Jessie. The nearest hospital was hundreds of miles away, with no way to get to it in time.

Jessie: Yes, but then - don't you see? That's just what I'm trying to do. I'm trying to improve Labrador - give it roads, doctors, hospitals, ... I'm trying to make Labrador better than it used to be, so that things like that will never happen again!



Ghost: Don't judge too quickly, Jessie. You've just seen a bit of the bad times Labrador has had. There were good times, too.

Jessie: You mean, I have to see more of this?

Ghost: Come with me, Jessie. It's time to move on. (they exit)

(Scene changes; recorder plays "Northern Lights". Roberta (Bob) is cooking over outdoor fire, as Kim (Jack) returns with a good catch of trout. Ghost & Jessie re-enter, and stand on sidelines to watch)

Jack: Hey - look at the meal I caught today. Gonna have a good feed of trout!

Jessie: Why - that's Uncle Jack! That's Uncle Jack when he was a young fellow. And there's Uncle Bob, too!

Ghost: Listen, Jessie!

Bob: (to Jack) How good! Where'd you get 'em?

Jack: Oh - about a half mile away from here, I'd say ...

Bob: They look good, Jack! Now, how'd you like a good feed of porcupine? He's just about done, we'll save those trout for the morning.

Jack: Mmmmmmm ... and I'm starved. A day like this'd make you glad to be alive.

Jessie: Now, that's more like it! (He's cheered up)

Ghost: Do you remember doing that, Jessie?

Jessie: I sure do. I must have been about 14 or 15, I guess.. and it was good fun, too.

Ghost: You enjoyed that kind of life, did you, Jessie?

Jessie: Oh, sure I did, then, but - I wouldn't enjoy it now.

Ghost: Why not?

Jessie: Things change, and people change - I wouldn't have the time to be doing that kind of thing now.

Ghost: Well, what about other people in Labrador? Shouldn't they be able to go on enjoying the outdoors?

Jessie: Sure! Who's stopping them?

Ghost: You are, Jessie. The water won't be clean enough to fish out of, by the time you and your factories are done. There won't be enough wood left to build a fire, and there'll be nothing left to hunt for, in the country - you're bull-doing it all away!

(Bob & Jack have finished supper, and are settling back)

Jack: Ah - that was good.

Bob: Nothing wrong with a good feed out in the fresh air, boy.

Jack: What's that song Dad used to sing, Bob - that one about \_\_\_\_\_?

Bob: You mean \_\_\_\_\_? Oh, it went something like this:  
 (They sing, with help from backstage)  
 (Song ends; Jack & Bob yawn and stretch, say goodnight, and walk offstage with sleeping bags)

Jessie: Let's go now. Please - I've seen enough.

Ghost: Not quite yet, Jessie. I have one more thing to show you.

Jessie: Oh no, please. I don't want to see anymore.

Ghost: But you must, Jessie. It's about time your eyes were opened.

Jessie: What is it this time?

Ghost: Do you remember the letter you wrote your family, after you left home? The one letter you ever wrote?

Jessie: Oh, no, no! I don't want to see that. I don't wanna see Mom - no - I won't look.

Ghost: You must, Jessie.

Jessie: (as Ghost leads him offstage) You can't take me there. You can't make me look! I won't....  
 ("Wings of an Eagle" is playing; Jessie & Ghost re-enter and Ghost points towards him)

Ghost: Look over there, Jessie. There's your little sister! She's got your letter in her hand!

Kim: (happy) Hey, Mom, Mom - we got a letter from Jessie! (hands it to her) Open it, please!

Mother: Hey, don't you think we should wait 'til your father comes home?

Kim: Oh, can't we read it now? Please? Tell him we just couldn't wait ...

Mother: Well, okay. (reads) "Dear Mom & Dad,"

Dee: (reading) Dear Mother and Father, I'm sorry I never wrote sooner, but things have been kind of busy around here. I wanted to send you some money, but I used my last pay cheque on a big deal I'm trying to swing.

Mother: ... He shouldn't worry about sending us money. I don't care if we never see a cent, as long as he stays well and happy.

Jessie: (to Ghost) Mom was always like that, you know. Everything was always for us. She never wanted anything for herself.



Ghost: She may have wanted a bit of love, Jessie....

Dee: (continuing to read) ... You should see this place. They've got at least 15 restaurants, a good hotel, great stores, and some huge apartment buildings. You'd be lost here.

Kim: I'm sure we would be.

Dee: (reading) .. But I love this city. My friends and I eat out at least three times a week, and I bought myself a new car last month, a ..

Mother: .. I'm glad to see he's eating well, anyway ...

Dee: (reading) To tell the truth, I've never missed home since the day I left.

Jessie: Mother! I didn't mean that! I didn't!

Dee: (reading) .. I can't believe how backward things are in Labrador. No one at home knows anything about the finer things in life. I've learned a lot since I moved to Edmonton, and I know Labrador can't go on as if it was part of the Dark Ages ..

Mother: It sounds to me as if Jessie has learned how to be a whole different person than the boy we raised ...

Jessie: (trying to reach her) Mother! I didn't mean that the way is sounded. I never said it to hurt you, Mom! Please believe me!

Ghost: They can't hear you, Jessie.

Dee: (reading) .. And I'm telling you, I won't be back til I've got the means to change Labrador, and give it some of the things it lacks. In this day and age, it's either sink or swim, and I intend to swim. Regards, Jessie.

Kim: Is that all he wrote - "Regards, Jessie"?

Dee: (staring off into space) Yes, Kim, that's all he wrote ...

Kim: (looking at letter) - No, wiat, Mother - he's got a P.S. on the end ...

Dee: (looking) So he does ... (reading) .. P.S. I might not be writing for a while. In this business, you gotta keep your mind on your work, make sure the next guy doesn't get one up on you. You don't get ahead by looking back. But don't worry - I'll come out on top ... (puts letter down on lap; very sad) ... Well, he may be turning into a fine young businessman, but oh, Kimmy, it's going to break my heart to show this letter to your father ... (slowly walks offstage, arm around Kim, "Wings of an Eagle" playing)

Jessie: (trying to follow) Wait, Mother! Kim! Come back! I'm sorry! I'm sorry! Please come back!

(Ghost and Jessie exit)

(Curtain opens with Jessie lying on bed. He sits up, suddenly clutching his blankets to him)

Jessie: Oh, I'm in my bed! (looks around) Where is he? Where'd he go? I - I know you're in here someplace. (jumps out of bed, looks nervously around room) He's not here! (tiptoes over and looks quickly under bed, shrugs shoulders, returns to bed) Hmmph! It must have been a dream! What a dream! Oh well, that's a relief ... (checks under bed once more, plumps up pillow, goes to sleep. A short pause ... Jessie is snoring ... clock strikes one. Ghost of Labrador Present saunters in.)

Ghost: Hey, Jessie man, get up! We're gonna go boogey!

Jessie: (jumps) Who are you?

Ghost: Hey, I'm the ghost of Labrador Present, man, Comin' with me or what?

Jessie: Uh-uh ... I've already been somewhere tonight, and I'm not going anywhere else.

Ghost: It's alright, man. We're gonna take a cool trip, you know - out on the town.

Jessie: No way!

Ghost: (goes to take his hand) Don't be so dense, man, come on!

Jessie: Just leave me alone! Go away! Okay?

Ghost: Hey ... Jessie! What's shakin, man?

Jessie: I am! ... Where do you want to take me anyway?

Ghost: Hey, that's more like it, man! Just gonna show you a pleasant little household scene - Labrador in the '80's, man, that's ~~where~~ it's at.

Jessie: Well, okay. I guess it can't be that bad. But nothing scary, okay?

Ghost: That's the way, Jessie. We're just gonna have ourselves a good time.

(snaps fingers; music comes on. Ghost dances offstage, leading Jessie. Music continues as scene changes, and Ghost & Jessie re-appear, on sidelines to watch "household scene".)

(Carl, Virginia, Kim are lying down in front of TV. Roberta is on phone in background, polishing nails.)

Ghost: Hey, Jessie man, take a good look. This is the 80's man, look at the happy family watching TV, all getting along great, eh?

Kim: I don't wanna watch Fraggie Rock. That's just for kids. (goes to switch channel)

Virginia: (stopping her) Well, that's what we are, kids. I wanna watch it.

Kim: Get lost!



Carl: I'm watching channel 4. Shove over.

Virginia Yeah? No way!  
& Kim:

Kim: Now look what you did!

Virginia: How can anyone watch TV anyway with that record on?

Carl: Bothering you, is it? (goes over, turns it up louder)

Kim: I'm putting on a tape!

Carl: Yeah? You just try it!

(Mother comes in, stirring a bowl or carrying laundry)

Mother: Children, children, calm down!

Kim: He broke the TV. He ripped the knob right out!

Carl: Yeah, I'll break your face, too, if you say anything else.

Mother: That's enough! (turns record off) You go clean your room, and you sit at the table and do your homework.

Kim: I'm not cleaning any of her stuff!

Carl: I got no homework.

Mother: This sure isn't what children used to be like in the old days.

Carl: Well, this is not the old days, is it?

Virginia: You shut up, Carl.

Kim: Who's talking to you?

(Meanwhile, Roberta hangs up phone, walks over)

Roberta: Hi, Mom.

Mother: You're finally off the 'phone, are you?

Roberta: Yeah, Mom, I need a new pair of socks. This one's got a hole in it.

Mother: Didn't I teach you how to darn socks?

Roberta: Yes, but it takes too much time. I haven't got time for that.

Mother: Oh? What do you spend all your time at, then?

Virginia: I know what she does!

Roberta: (gives her a kick) you shut up!

Mother: Anyway, come on, kids, it's time for supper.

Kim: What have we got for supper?

Mother: (proudly) Something real special - a piece of caribou.

All four: Caribou? Yuck!

Virginia: Well, I want pizza.

Mother: Pizza's not for a Sunday meal!

Kim: Well, we don't like caribou. I'd rather have Kraft Dinner for my supper.

Mother: Well, caribou is what it is, and you're going to eat it and you're going to appreciate it. It's not everybody that's lucky enough to have a good plate of food on the table. Now, come on, let's go in to supper. Well - come on!

Carl: I'm watching Fraggie Rock.

Virginia: So am I.

Kim: Can't we eat in here, so we can see the show?

Roberta: Come on! We gotta listen to Mom once in a while!

Carl: Why don't you listen to her?

Kim: Yeah, When it's time to come home tonight, you won't listen to her!

Mother: Well, I've had enough! No supper tonight. Nothing! I don't know what's happened to families, but this isn't what we used to call a family here in Labrador. (she leaves; kids turn on music again, as curtain closes with Ghost and Jessie out in front)

Ghost: So, Jessie, did you have a good look at family life in the '80's, man? Labrador has come a long way, hasn't it?

Jessie: What those kids need is a good hard smack. They should roll up their sleeves and do a bit of work, too. Help their mother out!

Ghost: Hey, take it easy, Jessie man! We don't want any of that old-fashioned stuff here. Remember, man - "You don't get ahead by looking back".

Jessie: Whoever said that?

Ghost: Why, you did, Jessie man. Don't you remember? Now, how about takin' another little peek at Labrador Present, man? This place is really swingin' Everyone's having a real good time, man, drinking beer, partying, driving around on skidoos, playing video games, you wanna see some more?

Jessie: No, not tonight. I - I think I've seen enough ... 'just let me go home.

Ghost: Whatever you say, Jessie, you're the boss. (Ghost snaps fingers, curtain opens, Ghost goes offstage and Jessie returns to bed.)



Jessie: What a mess that family was. Good thing there aren't many families like that in Labrador! (yawns, falls asleep, with pause until clock strikes two.)

(Jessie is asleep. Clock strikes two - Jessie wakes, looks at watch)

Jessie: Two already? (Ghost enters silently, Jessie sees him, and screams)

I, I don't want to go anywhere with you! I said, I'm not going anywhere with you. (Ghost just stands there) Who are you?

Ghost: I am the Ghost of Labrador Future, Jessie.

Jessie: (down on knees) Oh please, please let me stay here. I'll do anything - just - don't make me go with you - I don't want to see the future!

(Ghost just advances slowly until he touches Jessie)

Ghost: Come! (They walk off; Ghost & Jessie re-appear to watch scene)

(Tour Guide wearing sun-visor steps out)

Guide: Hurry, Hurry! Step right this way! Next Labrador Tourist Bus leaving in five minutes. Get your tickets now, ladies and gentlemen! Step this way!

(Dee and Charles - George - enter, with sunglasses, camera, binoculars, big handbags)

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Dee: Hey, George, we're finally here! Labrador! Where's the Eskimos? Where's the Indians?

George: Well, I don't care about the Eskimos and Indians. I wanna see some live caribou.

Dee: Well, I wanna see some Indians. Is that one over there? Where's my camera?

George: Right on your neck! (peers out over audience with binoculars) I wonder where those Labrador caribou are...

Dee: Isn't that some Indian children over there?

George: C'mon - let's go ask this fella over here.

Dee: But - do you think he speaks English?

George: Course he does - everyone speaks English.

Guide: Next bus trip leaves in 5 minutes, ma'am. Where do you care to go?

George: I wanna go to a wildlife preserve and see some live caribou.

Guide: No problem sir. That'll be our Assorted Inland Wildlife Tour. You'll go in the country, spend an evening by a roaring fire drinking Labrador Tea with the natives, and end up at Hotel Hopedale sometime tomorrow. Step right up, sir. Right this way.

Dee: Oh, but what if you want to see the whales off the coast, and some Eskimo children? And I wanna buy some soapstone carvings and three pairs of seal-skin boots to take back to my nieces and nephews. And I'll want a good hotel room with a nice hot shower, and a meal of that wonderful Arctic Char I've been reading so much about.

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Guide: Oh, well, that's a different trip, ma'am. You'll have to go on our coastal route. That takes you through what was once Rigolet, on up to Makkovik, Hopedale, Indian Land, and Eskimo Village. That bus leaves in 20 minutes. Now, there aren't any whales anymore - they all died out on account of the oil spills we've been having. And I'm afraid the same thing happened to the Arctic Char. But, there's a real fancy whale museum you'll be visiting on the way. And no worries about good hotels - each place we stop has at least 3 or 4.

Dee: Oh, what're we gonna do, George?

George: Well, you can go see the whale museum and the Eskimos. I'm gonna go see the caribou.

Dee: Okay! Great! Let's go! I hope I've got my credit cards. Oh - but before we go, George, I want a picture of you with a genuine Labradorian. Go stand by him - that's right.

Carl: But I'm from Manitoba, ma'am.

Dee: Oh, that's okay. It's all the same difference. (click) Let's go then!

Jessie: (to Ghost) What was that?

Ghost: That is the future you are bringing to Labrador, Jessie.

Jessie: Me? I never wanted it to turn out like that!

Ghost: Well, it will, Jessie. And you will be responsible.

Jessie: But, but ...

Ghost: (interrupts) Come, Jessie. I have more to show you. (they exit)

(They enter again, opposite graves)

Jessie: What're we doing at the graveyard?

Ghost: Go closer, Jessie.

Jessie: Look at those two with flowers on them! What about that other one, there? Who owns it?

Ghost: Go and see, Jessie.

Jessie: (reading) Jessie Martin! That's me! How - how come there's no flowers on my grave?

Ghost: Well, you spent your whole life making everyone hate you, Jessie.

Jessie: Oh .... well, how did I die? Was it something bad?

Ghost: I'll show you, Jessie.

Jessie: (as they go to stand behind graves) I don't want to see! I don't want to see! (Jessie has hands over eyes; Ghost waves arm)



Jessie: Hey! That's my office building in Happy Valley!

Sevilla: (with picket sign; leads out, shouting angrily) Come on guys. Let's get that lousy so and so out here, and make him tell us why he killed off all our wildlife.

Carl: (joins her) Yeah! Come on out here, Jessie, and tell us why you ruined our land with your stupid roads. Did it make you rich, Jessie?

Dee: What about our rivers, Jessie? Are you gonna come out here and clean em for us?

Kim: Get out here, Jessie, and pay up for what you've done.

Charles & Virginia: That's right, Jessie. Come down here and face us, and tell us what you've done to Labrador, you great big old chicken.

All: (waving signs) We want Jessie, we want Jessie! ...etc.)

Jessie: My God, Ghost! Can't you help me? Don't let me die like that. Can't you help me?

Ghost: You're the only one who can save yourself, Jessie.

Virginia: (picks up rock) This is what we think of you and your roads, Jessie. (throws it)

All: Yeah!

Carl: And here's one for your oil rigs, too. (throws it)

All: Yeah! (they all start throwing rocks) Get him, get him, get him, [etc.] (black out)

(Light returns; Jessie is alone again, on his bed)

Jessie: (screams, jumps up) It's - it's morning! I'm alive! I'm alive! Yahoo! (looks out window) What a beautiful day! Yahoo! What a beautiful, beautiful day! Charles! Charles!

Charles: Yes sir, did you call?

Jessie: Yes, Charles. Get me my secretary on the phone! Get her right away!

Charles: Yes, Sir. (gets phone, dials number, hands Jessie the receiver)

Jessie: Alice? Yes, Alice! Sorry to bother you so early! But - isn't it a beautiful day? A wonderful day, Alice! What? Me? Oh, I'm fine, Alice! Just fine! I never felt better! Uh, Alice - I want you to call the lumber company right away. Tell them - every tree they cut, I want a new one planted. Understand? Yes! And oh - tell the manager at the Aluminum Smelter - tell him he's got to shut down until we've got those new pollution controls. Got that? What? Why? Well, tell him we can't go poisoning all the fish in Lake Melville, can we?

Jessie: Yes, and get in touch with the Indian Band Council, and the Community Council in Nain. Tell them I won't make another move until we all have a chance to sit down and work things out together. And tell 'em not to worry about the caribou. I'm not gonna let anything happen to those caribou!

And, Alice - it's such a lovely day - why don't you take the morning off! Better yet - take the whole day off! After all, what is life for?

.. Yes, yes, I'm sure I'm alright. I'm feeling great, Alice, just great! Board Meeting? What board meeting? Well - tell 'em I can't make it. Tell 'em - why, tell 'em me and Charles, here, we're going fishing!

Charles: Fishing, sir? Are you sure?

Jessie: You bet I am! Let's go!

Charles: Yahoo! (they exit, to theme music)

END