

"KAMATIK NAMED DESIRE"

a play
by the students
of

J.C. Erhardt Memorial School
Nakkovik, Labrador

This play is a series of five skits.

CAST

Olsen Ford	Bob & Frankie
Amos Nochasak	Sheldon & Rodney
Irven Nochasak	John
Wanda Andersen	Donna & Rhonda
Elsie Broomfield	Sheila
Patty Voisey	Irene & Pamela
Lisette Voisey	Rebecca



A KOMATIK NAMED DESIRE

Introduction:

An old man is strolling around. The stage is in semi-darkness to suggest that it is dusk. He walks back and forth, smoking his pipe. Behind him, on the road, a young couple passes by. They are close together and giggling. He watches them go by and turns to address the audience.

Old Man: Would ya just look at 'em. I was just standin' here thinkin' to myself how times is changin'. Changin' fast, ugly fast. Wasn't like this when I was young. Lots of entertainment these days, lots to do. Too much to do - don't know what to be doin'. Ya know, we used to make our own fun. But I s'pose? Lookin at 'em reminds me of when me and Rebecca was courtin" ... just the same..

(He looks in the direction of the young couple.)

Wonder where they went to? Over behind the shed most likely. Oh, I s'pose, some things never change.

(Old man exits; Stage darkens. Suddenly, bright lights flash, rock music blares. Open up into Scene I, at the dance.)

SCENE I

The scene is at the community hall in a small village. A band is playing. There are couples standing around, as well as people standing alone glancing around from person to person.

Sheldon: Come on, Donna, let's dance.

Donna: Not now. My parents said I have to be in by 10:30. And look (she looks at her watch), it's already after 10.

Sheldon: Oh, come on, one dance ...

Donna: No, Sheldon, I'm not letting you get me in trouble tonight.

(Donna leaves. Sheldon looks depressed, then he sees Pamela. He goes to her.)

Sheldon: Hey Pamela, how about a dance? My girlfriend is gone home now.

Pamela: Why do you always ask me after your girlfriend has gone home? Are you afraid you might lose her?

Sheldon: Oh, forget about her. She's long gone by now. So let's dance, eh?

Pamela: Oh, one waltz, that's all. Oh .. wait .. my boyfriend might see me.

Sheldon: Of course he'll see you. He's in the band. But he won't mind.

Pamela: Well okay, but, if he gets into a fight with you don't come to me for help.

(Sheldon and Pamela waltz. Enter Donna)

Donna: I just got permission to stay out later - but look at this ... you sick two-timer, that is all you want. Girls, girls, girls, you can have them all Sheldon; except me. Good-bye Sheldon.

(The band starts to strum up, the band leader, Bob, Pamela's boyfriend, is angry at what's happening)

Bob: And here's a song for Pamela ... if I see you dancing with Sheldon again, we're through.

(Band starts to sing. With apparent anger Pamela rushes to the stage)

Pamela: What's wrong with you, Bob? I can't dance with other boys when you're around.

Bob: The question is .. what's wrong with you, sweetie?

Pamela: Don't sweetie me .. you... you. Thinks you can sing, don't you. And what am I supposed to do? Sit on the edge of the stage and making big eyes at you. Never moving out of your sight. You know how much I like to dance.

Sheldon: Yeah, that's right. You don't have the right to call her names or expect her to sit around just because she is your girlfriend. Oh yeah, that's right. She's not your girlfriend ... she's mine.

Donna: Sheldon, how could you, right in front of me? Come on Bob, let's go.

Bob: Yeah, let's go. Break time everyone.

Sheldon: Well, let's go Pamela.

Pamela: (exiting with Sheldon) Let's go ... Let's go .. Let's go. Don't I get a say in this?!

(End of Scene. Fade to black)

SCENE II

The scene opens on the wharf on a summer evening. There are people busily walking about. A young girl is walking back and forth, glancing shyly over her shoulder. A young man approaches. She pretends not to notice him.

Rodney: Hello, Rhonda, strange to see you here .. waiting for someone?

Rhonda: Yes ...

Rodney: Anyone special?

Rhonda: Yes, my sister. She'll be off the boat in a few minutes.

Rodney: I caught a big salmon today!

Rhonda: Hey, that's very nice ..

Rodney: I was wondering .. well, I was wondering if you would like it for your supper.

Rhonda: Oh yes, that would be very nice.

(He hands her the fish. She jumps and rubs her nose.)

Rhonda: Oh, I got a scale in my nose.

Rodney: Here, let me. (he reaches over and removes the scale)

Rhonda: Thanks, Rodney (she is embarrassed)

Rodney: I'm sorry I flicked the salmon at you. Anyway, now you know it's fresh.

Rhonda: Thanks a lot! (Rodney starts to walk away)

Rhonda: Oh, Rodney, by the way... since you ~~gave~~ me the lovely salmon, would you like to come to dinner tomorrow evening? It's too much for just me.

Rodney: Okay, I guess so. Yeah, that would be nice.

(The stage lights fade. Rodney & Rhonda reappear. Rhonda is wearing an apron)

Rhonda: Hi, Rodney. Come in and sit down.

Rodney: What a lovely smell!

Rhonda: That's your dinner ... our dinner.

Rodney: Hope it tastes as good as it smells.

Rhonda: I hope so too. Well it's ready. I'll set the table.

Rodney: Do you want me to help?

Rhonda: Sure, if you want to.

(Lights fade. Rodney and Rhonda are sitting at the table.)

Rodney: That was some good dinner, Rhonda.

Rhonda: Well you caught it. I only cooked it.

Rodney: I might as well come out and say it straight. Rhonda, do you ~~have~~ have a boyfriend?

Rhonda: Why do you ask?

Rodney: Because if you have a boyfriend he might get cross with me.

Rhonda: No, I don't have a boyfriend. Not yet ... anyway.

Rodney: Seeing that you don't have a boyfriend, how would you like to go to the dance with me on Saturday night?

Rhonda: Okay, Rodney, you got yourself a date. Let's go sit on the sofa, it's much nicer in the living room.

Rodney: Okay!

(As they get up the lights begin to fade. Take walk off stage into darkness)

SCENE III

The scene opens with bright white lights. Robert and Irene are wearing snowsuits.

Robert: Well, here we are dear. We finally made it. The woods are beautiful, it's such a nice day.

Irene: (with anger in her voice) If that ski-doo breaks down once more, I'm never going back to Makkovik. I'll just sit here till someone finds me.

Robert: I promise you it won't break down again. Now, let's not talk about it anymore. I'm freezing.

Irene: Okay, I am too. You unpack the komatik, I'm going to unlock the door of the cabin. (she tries unsuccessfully)

Robert: That door should be easy to open. Look, there's tracks over there - someone was here not long ago.

Irene: That's our tracks, you fool! Oh, dear, this door seems to be stuck.

Robert: What do you mean, stuck? You women are all alike. You can't do anything on your own.

Irene: Okay, if you are so good at it, why don't you try. (he struggles with the lock, finally giving in to pushing the door open)

Robert: Damn it Irene .. now I've broken the cursed thing!

Irene: Yes, and you're the one who knows how to do everything right. Anyway, let's unpack the komatik.

Robert: Where's the pot of stew you were bringing? I don't see it!

Irene: You don't see it! Didn't you put it on the komatik when I asked you?

Robert: No, I thought you packed the food. Women's job - packing food.

Irene: Is it now? Well, let's talk about men's work. Where's the spare gas can?

Robert: Gas? I thought you brought it. It was right out by the step. I shouted at you to put it on the komatik.

Irene: (voice rising) You know I don't listen when you shout orders at me.

Robert: Oh, listen who's talking.

Irene: Well, that does it. This whole mess was your idea. Get away for the weekend, Irene, he says - just the two of us. Off in the woods all by ourselves, oh, so romantic. All of our problems will just drift away. Yeah, right. Nothing to eat, no gas.

Robert: There's enough gas in the machine to get back to Makkovik. That's where I'm going! Are you coming?

Irene: Of course I'm coming, seeing that you ruined the weekend.

Robert: Oh, shut up and get on the komatik! I didn't want to miss the hockey game on Saturday night, anyway.

(Exit Robert & Irene - Fade lights)

SCENE IV

A young boy and girl participating in the sportsmeet have just met.

Frankie: That run was the best of the sportsmeet, Sheila.

Sheila: How did you know my name?

Frankie: Oh, that was easy. Your name is written on the button you're wearing.

Sheila: Well, I better be off. I got another race to run. I really want to win this one.

(Frankie starts to run off, then trips and falls)

Frankie: Oh, my foot!

Sheila: Are you allright?

Frankie: I think I sprained something.

Sheila: I'll go and get some help.

(Stage darkens. When the lights come up Frankie is in a hospital bed. Sheila is standing by the bed.)

Frankie: The doctor said I have to go to North West River.

Sheila: I wish you could stay. I only got two days left here myself. I've got to go back to Makkovik on Saturday. Well, I have to go now.

Frankie: I'll miss you, Sheila. Can we get in touch somehow?

Sheila: I don't know. I don't get the chance to move around very much.

Frankie: Then can you write to me?

Sheila: I don't know. I'll try. Maybe I can phone - if my parents will let me use the phone. Bye, Frankie.

(She starts to go, then turns back, gives Frankie a quick kiss and leaves. Sheila goes to one side of the stage. Frankie leaves the bed and goes to the opposite side of the stage. They talk to themselves.)

Sheila: What a winter ... boring, nothing to do. Too cold to even go outside.

Frankie: I wish she lived here. I wouldn't be spending my nights watching T.V. - not alone anyway.

Sheila: Oh, that fellow I met at the sportsmeet ...

Frankie: Haven't seen her in four months ...

Sheila: Haven't seen him since October ...

Frankie: She was cute.

Sheila: I haven't even got a picture of him. No mind, I'll never forget that face. So handsome!

Frankie: I've got to see her again.

Sheila: Soon, I've got to see him, soon.

Frankie: Hey, I know what I'll do. I'll go see her this weekend. I bet Dad will lend me the ski-doo. There's a whole bunch of people going down to Makkovik this weekend. (running off stage) Dad ... can I borrow the ...

Sheila: I've got it. I'll spend that Sear's refund money on a Lab Air ticket. I'm going to go to Hopedale to see him. Gotta phone Lab Air. Gotta phone Frankie ... no, I'll surprise him.

(When they reappear, both are wearing outdoor clothing. Frankie is now on Sheila's side of the stage and Sheila is on Frankie's side)

Sheila: Hello, anyone home ... Gone to Makkovik to see Sheila. Why, why ... I'm Sheila. (Light goes down on Sheila)

Frankie: Hi, is Sheila home? ... Gone to Hopedale to Frankie ..Why, why ... I'm Frankie.

(Black out)

SCENE V

Rebecca: Cup of tea, John?

John: I'd love one, Rebecca. Got any sweet buns left? Those were good even though they were a bit dry.

Rebecca: Oh, look John. All the young ones are out strolling around this evening. Everybody wearing spring jackets, too.

John: Remember when we was courtin' Rebecca? The young folks don't do things the way we used to when we were young, eh, Rebecca?

Rebecca: That's right John.

John: Remember how we used to get interrupted. Mother would run in and make me go empty the bucket.

Rebecca: I would always freeze waiting for you and you always leaving the doors open.

John: You know some of them young folks stay out until midnight. We used to be in at 7 o'clock.

Rebecca: There was no streetlights then - too dark to stay out. But that's true, I've heard of some who stay out all night.

John: They watch movies now. We used to watch sunsets.

Rebecca: We had our good time though. Remember that New Year's Eve when I was sixteen. Remember ... Mother let me stay up.

John: I can hardly remember when you were sixteen. Sometimes on Dad's birthday I remember - he used to let us stay up and listen to the men talk. 105

Rebecca: John, go get that old picture album so we can have a look.

(He brings the picture album. Rebecca slowly turns the pages.)

John: Look, there's one of New Year's Eve. You were asleep on my shoulder.

Rebecca: Well, someone's got to know when it's time to go home.

John: Time to go home. Sure I know that that was the first time you tried homebrew.

(They suddenly jump and turn to the window)

Rebecca: What was that?!

John: Kids throwing rocks. (he raises the window) Hey, you stop throwing them rocks!

Voice: What are you going to do?

Other Voice: Yeah!

John: I have a mind to chase them!

Rebecca: Never mind. You know we would never get off with that. When we were small, people had respect then.

(They return to looking at the picture album)

Rebecca: Oh look at this one. Us on our wedding day.

John: What a time that was!

Rebecca: Yes, until you took off on me.

John: I was by your side through the whole thing. We danced all night.

Rebecca: I wanted to dance so bad, and you took off with the boys.

John: What a feed of goose we had.

Rebecca: How did we ever get enough partridges for all that crowd?

John: 'Twas awful fine weather.

Rebecca: 'Twas snowing thick!

John: Are we talking about the same wedding?

Rebecca: We should be, but you got it all mixed up.

John: Me, me. It's you, Rebecca, with the short memory.

Rebecca: Stop it, John. I'm not arguing tonight. Been arguing with you for 48 years. Sometimes I wonder why I bothered.

John: All right, Rebecca, let's go to bed, we never argued about that. I'm dead tired.

Rebecca: Okay, John.

(As they walk off stage, the curtain comes down.)

END