

**Black Tickle Drama Group
St. Peter's School, Black Tickle
presents**

“ Another Day/ Another Problem”

Cast

**Abby / Art / Sally Sharon Keefe
Father / John Cathy Keefe
Jason / Herman Wendy Keefe
Mother / Roger Serena Holwell**

Teacher Advisors

**Brenda Roberts
Madeline Keefe
Cindy Keefe**

This play focuses on recent problems in the community of Black Tickle/ Domino, and the government response to the situation. We depicted local people at the community level, and have a fictionalized meeting of various prominent politicians, discussing the various issues that affect the community.

“Another Day/ Another Problem”

Scene 1: Kitchen Activities

(Marge is waiting for her husband and son to bring home water. She is sitting next to the kitchen table with her straining bucket and cloth. Abby is going in to the living room to watch television.)

- Abby:** I have to hurry up and watch Days. I've just got to find out about Jack and Jennifer. *(Walks to the living room to watch TV)* Oh, no, it's on already. *(Jason and Jake return with the water from local pond)*
- Mother:** Oh Jake not that Martin's Pond water. The scum on that is three inches thick. I'll have to use two straining cloths on that.
- Jason:** Yeh, even the MHA said the scum would catch to your throat and she don't even drink the stuff.
- Mother:** OK, enough of that old cram, let's try to strain the old stuff.
- Father:** Come on Abby, get out here and help your mother strain the water.
- Abby:** No, I'm not doing that. I heard this morning that Reid fellow in government says the people in Black Tickle were lazy. So I'm gonna sit here, live up to my name and watch Days.
- Father:** Come on now Abby, if you had to listen to everything the government said we wouldn't be here now. So get out here and help your mother.
- Abby:** Just one minute, Days is almost over. Oh my God, she's not gonna tell him.... here it is she's gonna tell him. LOOK, LOOK oh no, I knew that would happen .
- Mother:** What Abby, she didn't tell him?
- Abby:** No the channels are gone again. I might as well come out and help you strain the water, now. Who knows when that will come on again.
- Jason:** The cable company said it will take a reasonable time to fix the problem, two weeks should do. I bet I won't see the hockey game again this weekend.
- Father:** Come on, let's get this done now, ya mother and I got to soon go to the public meeting with them government people. There's a lot more important things bothering this community that your soap.

Jason: Who's coming to the meeting anyway?

Mother: I heard over at the shop, that Yvonne Jones the MHA is coming along with Art Reid from Municipal Affairs.

Abby: Reid, is he the one who is talking about us on the radio this morning?

Mother: Yes, he's been on the radio and in the papers talking about Black Tickle.

Abby: Is anyone else coming to the meeting?

Mother: They're sending in someone to talk about education and John Efford, to talk about the seal fishery.

Father: Yes, and I hope he tells us that we can get back to work on the water.

Mother: Yes sir, and me back in the plant where I can make an honest dollar.

Jason: I wonder if they'll say anything about our high school.

Abby: Yeh, or about the transportation in Labrador like our boats, planes let alone the ole road. (*Lights fade. Music played to change scene*)

Scene 2: Politician Meeting

Art: Now boys, don't forget our hidden agenda fro Black Tickle. Let's go over exactly what we must say to them. Roger, what is it that you will say about the education reform?

Roger: Well Art, you know according to the paper the biggest concern in Black Tickle is their water. Let's get your story straight first.

Art: If they listened to me in the first place and developed some initiative and responsibility like I wanted them to they'd have as much water as in Churchill Falls today.

John: Be careful of what you say up there. Some of them hot heads are the first ones to run to the media or write up a big letter to government if they get a complaint.

Art: Now the bottom line is this, those people got to understand that the government don't have four million dollars to spend up there on a measily 300 people. They can't expect to be able to have daily showers and flush their

toilets a hundred times a day. The point is that the government just got NO MONEY.

John: I hope you're not going to tell 'em like that?

Art: No... oh no. We'll speak to the president of the local service district and explain the government's financial difficulties. What we'll do is tell the people that we have come across some funding to pay that big hydro bill for the water.

Roger: And all they got to do then is pay a \$20 assessment fee per household per month to look after the system that cleans bacteria out of Martin's Pond. We'll promise that as soon as the economic picture looks better everyone in Black Tickle/ Domino will get running water to their houses.

John: But Paul Dicks said that we are out of money for the next twenty years.

Roger: Yes, but we don't tell them that.

Art: Now don't let that independent spitfire from Mary's Harbour get on to this. The next thing she'll do is pull a stunt like looking for Third World Aid.

Roger: Now John, what's your fishing story?

John: Fred Mifflin figures that they'll have a turbot quota for the Davis Strait and this fall we're looking for a quota of 20,000 seals processed in Black Tickle at a rate of 1000 a day.

Roger: Well that will make them all think they'll all get back to work. Now, about that education issue, we will praise up their teachers, students and especially their school.

John: You know some of them will want to know if their school will remain open.

Roger: And we'll say that next year things look very promising.

Art: Well boys, that covers our whole agenda. Let's get our things ready to leave for that meeting.

Scene 3: Kitchen Scene

(Some friends are sitting around the table discussing the public meeting with government

officials)

Father: Boy, it was a good thing I rememnered to take that water from Martin's Pond to the meeting.

Sally: Do ya remember the look on Mr. Reid's face when I passed him up the water? He refused to drink it even when I promised him that it was boiled.

Herman: The nerve of him, so that's the one who said on the radio that we were lazy and haven't got any responsibility.

Mother: That's not the first time he had to eat his words. Remember what he said about Lynn Verge in the last election?

Herman: If I said that about Sally, what he said about Ms. Verge, she'd knock me block off.

Father: Yes and Marge would do the same. Did ya see the way our MHA picked up fer us in the meetin'?

Sally: That crowd in St. John's don't frighten her none.

Herman; Yes, and I'm some glad we finally got some hopeful news on the fishery. Looks like we'll have our seal quota after all. So we'll be able to get some work in a few weeks. It would be just spot on if we got the turbot quota for the summer too.

Mother: Yes, and my Abby will be some glad to hear that she'll be graduating here next year.

Herman: That's the school and the water problems settled. From what they're saying, they can give us clean water in a few weeks. They might even hook up a water hose for the community later on.

Sally: Now I'll be all set if I could get in my truck and go for a drive a few miles further than the air strip.

Mother: Well that's enough of that now. That's another problem for another day. Let's have a cup of tea and a good game of cards.