

**Taylor Made Players
Black Tickle
present**

“Hidden Reality”

Cast

Zac Martin Crystal Keefe

Vicki Lewis Amy Hudson

Sara Cathy Keefe

Mother (Marian Lewis) Sandra Neville

Jane Lewis Cathy Keefe

Director

Brenda Roberts

Vicki appears to have the perfect life and the perfect family. However, seldom is anything the way it appears to the rest of the world.

“Hidden Reality”

SCENE 1

Opening song: Save the Night by Eagle Eye Cherry

Setting: Split scene at lunch break between Vicki and her friend; Zak and his friend; Sara

Vicki and Friend:

Friend: And what are you doing this weekend?

Vicki: I'm thinking about going to this baseball game. What about you?

Friend: My family is having a get together on the weekend and they expect me to be there.

Vicki: What is that: **quality family time**? Do they still do that?

Split to Zac and Sara. Zac and his friend are talking about a test.

Sara: Look at the expiration date on this sub. It's over a month ago. I bet there's mould on this cheese. *(Opens the sub and takes it apart with her nose up in the air.)* Looks alright, probably tastes old. *(She takes a bite out of the sub and says)* I hate science, do you? I don't know why we have to take this test. I never started to study my six chapters yet. Did you get your's studied? I can't stand Labs. If I have to dissect another rat I think I'll die. What conclusion did you come to on your science experiment?

Split to Vicki and her friend.

Friend: So what do you think of Zac?

Vicki: Of who? *(Face is twisted)*

Friend: You know ---- ZAC! *(Nods her head towards Zac)*

Split to Zac and Sara.

Sara: *(Zac still staring in space.)* Zac, Zac. *(She taps on his head.)* Is anyone home?

Split to Vicki and her friend.

Vicki: You mean that Zac, my Shadow. He's such a dweeb. Do you know he got himself in my research project so we'd be partners. I mean, what next? I thought I'd die then and there.

Split to Zac and Sara.

Zac: What? What? Did you say something?

Sara: You never heard a word I said did you?

Zac: Yes I did, you were talking about language.

Sara: language! I was talking about Labs, you moron! Sometimes I wonder how you manage to get your 90's. If you paid as much attention in class as you do to me, how do you even pass? Zac, instead of drooling over Vicki, why don't you go and ask her out?

Split to Vicki and her friend.

Friend: Vicki, my dear, he's staring straight at ya'. I'm even getting paranoid.

Vicki: And, I'll just die if he comes over here.

Split to Zac and Sara.

Zac: Are you crazy? She's way out of my league.

Sara: Any girl would like to be with you.

Zac: Whatever Sara.

Sara: Go on, you're sweet, caring, loving.

Zac: So.

Sara: You're very good looking too.

Zac: I'm sure. *(A little laugh, puts his head down.)*

Split to Vicki and her friend.

Friend: Oh no, I think Sara got him coming over here. That's it, if he comes over here, I'm gone.

Vicki: Oh he's not! I'll die!

Friend: Vicki, I swear, he's been drooling at you this half hour. Oh look, he's coming over. That's it, gotta go.

Vicki: Hey, come back, don't leave me here alone.

Friend: Sorry Vicki. This time you're on your own. *(Friend exits the room)*

Split to Sara and Sara.

Sara: Yes!! I mean you should go over and ask her out. *(He gets up and goes over to ask her. She's with her friends. Zac walks up a little and stops to turn back. Sara pushes him closer. Zac walks up a little more then stops and turns his head. Sara pushes him even closer. By this time, it's too late and Vicki is leaving.)*

Zac: *(In a loud voice)* Vicki!!!

Vicki: Yes?

Zac: Hi.

Vicki: Hi.

Zac: I wanted to tell you something.

Vicki: Yes.

Zac: You you dropped your books.

Vicki: OK *(Zac picks up her books)* Are you trying out for baseball?

Zac: I need a little practice, my grades are pretty good. I don't think I'm very good on a lay up. *(Bell rings, Vicki goes one way, Zac goes his way and talks to himself.)* Oh that bell! Just one more minute and I would have asked her out. The next time I see her and talk to her..... the next time!! Yes sir! The next time!!

Save The Night by Eagle Eye Cherry.

SCENE 2

Setting: In the house. Mother is playing cards and Jane is playing on the floor. There is a liquor bottle on the table. Jane gets up to sit with her mom.

Jane: Mommmy?

Mother: Yes Jane. *(Plays away at her cards)*

Jane: Mommy love Jane?

Mother: Yes Jane, Mommy loves you very much. Yes, my darling.

Jane: Mommy want to play with Jane?

Mother: Not right now sweetie. Mommy is busy, Jane. Go play with your toys, my love. *(Mother continues to play her cards.)*

Jane runs round and round in circles chanting: Jane wanna play.

Mother: Jane, please sit down now. You are making Mommy dizzy.

Jane: *(Sits down beside Mother) Jane play cards too? Jane loves cards. (She takes some of the cards and starts to play with them, placing them on her head and her mother's.)*

Mother: JANE! BE STILL AND SIT DOWN!

Jane: Mommy where Vicki?

Mother: Vicki is in school.

Jane: Mommy where Daddy?

Mother: Don't mention that old thing. Who cares where he is? *(Mother drinks some of her bottle)*

Jane: What's that in your bottle Mommy?

Mother: Juice.

Jane: Jane love juice. Can I have some juice?

Mother: No sweetie, that juice is for big girls.

Jane: Well, Jane a big girl, look at me. *(She stands up. Mother hides her bottle behind her.)*

Mother: Yes, Jane is a big girl, but she can't have Mommy's juice.

Jane: *(Loud)* Jane want Vicki.

Mother: Jane is in school.

Jane: *(Screams)* Jane wants Vicki. *(Repeats it)*

Mother: Jane, go over there and play with your doll until Vicki comes home. Right now.
Jane does so. Vicki comes home and goes to Jane, her handicapped sister.

Vicki: Hi Jane, how was your day? Do you want to play a little game of peek - a - boo?

Jane: I want to play my doll.

Vicki: Okay, we'll play dolls.

Jane: Vicki, do you love me?

Vicki: You know I love you. Mom, she should have friends of her own.

Mother: Victoria, you know she doesn't understand.

Vicki: Mom, you should take her out in the park. *(Drinks from her cup)*

Mother: The park? Victoria, get a clue!

Vicki: She needs to meet people.

Mother: Meet people? Victoria, she wouldn't know what to say. She never talks to anyone only you.

Vicki: I think I'm going to take her to the park today.

Mother: She'll hurt herself. Leave her where she is. She don't like outside anyway. *(She slurs her words)*

Vicki: Mom, you should take her outside, and spend more time with Jane. Don't you know there's a school where Jane could go to.

Mother: A SCHOOL! Victoria! Jane is unteachable! Jane would be happier at home.

Vicki: Mother, how would you know where Jane is happier? You've never given her a chance. You keep Jane so isolated. She hardly even gets out on the back step for some fresh air, let alone a walk in the park, a trip to the zoo, or even a day in school. Jane is 9 years old and she doesn't have a friend to her name.

Mother: Victoria, watch how you speak to me! I deserve RESPECT.

Vicki: Mother, give me a break!!

Jane: Vicki, come play with me!!

Mother: Jane, shut up!

Vicki: MOTHER!!!??

Mother: *(goes to use bathroom, staggers.)* Watch Jane while I go to use the bathroom. *(Her words slur more. Vicki sits down and is uncomfortable)*

Vicki: *(Jumps up)* What am I sitting on? Not another one of Jane's toys. *(Picks up a half full bottle of alcohol)* Oh Mother. And she deserves respect.

Let's Talk About Love by Celine Dion

SCENE 3

Outside of school, discussing a school project.

Zac: So, what mark did you get on the math test today?

Vicki: Well, I got an 80. I won't get that kind of mark on the science test, I could promise you. Oh that reminds me, did you find any more information for our research paper?

Zac: I got some videos on the rock groups of the 60's. How about if I come over after supper and we ask your mother if she has any music from the 60's like Dr. Hook and the Medicine Show, or the Carrs, or something like that?

Vicki: Oh no Zac, my mother only listens to classical music. It would be a waste of time. Anyway, what are you doing tonight after supper? There's a basketball game tonight. Would you like to join me?

Zac: AS A DATE?!?!?!?!?

Vicki: No! I As friends.

Zac: That's what I thought. *(Looks to audience with a sad face of rejection)* Yeah, I think I'm going with a few friends.

Vicki: OK, I'll see you there. *(Gets up to leave)*

Zac: Vicki, I was wondering if you want some help studying for that science test after the game?

Vicki: That would be great. Could we meet at your house, because Mom has a dinner meeting with a few clients at our house. *(The two walk down the road to Vicki's house)*

Zac: Did I see you with a little girl? Is that your sister?

Vicki: Oh yes, that's my sister Jane. She's nine years old, and so smart and beautiful.

Zac: Maybe we could take her out for a walk in the park someday.

Vicki: That would be great. She needs to get outside. However, I doubt that she'll go because Mom's awfully protective over her.

Zac: So...what school do she go to?

Vicki: You know, it's funny. I don't remember the name of the school right now.

Zac: *(Gives her a strange look)* Oh well, what grade is she in?

Vicki: Jane's on an individual program.

Zac: Well, does she enjoy sports like you?

Vicki: Jane's more of an artistic type. She spends a lot of time alone painting. She tends to keep to herself. She's quite shy.

Zac: You're lucky, I've always wanted a younger sister.

Vicki: Oh, here's my house.....I'll see you at the game.

Zac: Okay, catch you later. *(They go separate ways)*

Scene changes to inside of Vicki's house. Jane is alone.

Jane: Mommmmmmmmy! Mommmmmmy, are you finished peeing yet?

Mother staggers across room hauling on her clothes.

Jane: Mommy, Jane hungry. I want soup.

Mother: OK Mommy will make a nice pot of soup for supper. *(Mother puts pot of soup on stove, goes back to the table to sit down and passes out on the table. Jane plays away.)*

Jane: Mommy is soup ready yet? Mommy? Mommy? Jane check. *(Reaches up for the pot and hauls it down on herself, makes a loud scream, causing Vicki to run in.)*

Vicki: Oh my God! Oh my God! *(She runs in the house. Lights switch to the left side of the stage where Jane is rocking back and forth with her arms folded around her stomach.)*

Jane: I'm sorry, Jane's a bad girl! Do you hate me? *(Mother is drunk, passed out with bottle by her side. Jane is still repeating.)* Jane's a bad girl. I'm sorry.

Vicki: What happened? Are you alright?

Jane: I'm sorry.

Vicki: That's okay. Everything is going to be okay. Where's Mommy?

Jane: Mommy's asleep.

Vicki: Asleep? Where?

Jane: Mommy asleep. Mommy very tired.

Vicki: Mommy is tired. Yes indeed. *(Vicki looks at Mother)*

Jane: Are you mad at Jane?

Vicki: No my poor baby. *(Vicki brushes Jane's hair from her face and goes to get Jane a*

blanket. She puts the blanket on Jane and takes Jane to a chair to sit down. She picks up the bottle and looks at it with anger on her face and either slams it down on the table or throws it at the wall. She yells at her mother.) You damn drunk get up!!!! (The she grabs hold of her mother and tries to straighten her up) You make me sick!! You're disgusting. (Mother grunts) Why can't you be like a real mother. Jane could have scalded herself to death and you wouldn't have known anything about it. You're useless.

Mother: Victoria please. I've got a headache.

Vicki: Don't tell me about your headaches. I'm fed up with your drinking. Don't you care that Jane could have died?

Mother: Victoria, have you forgotten who you are talking to? I'm your mother.

Vicki: I'm not talking to a mother, I'm talking to a drunk.

Mother: I-Am-Not-Drunk. I've just had a few drinks to pass away the evening.

Vicki: Mom, I'm fed up with it. I can't even look at you much less talk to you.

Mother: Victoria, what do you think you're doing?

Vicki: *(Talking to Jane gently)* Come on Jane, put on your nice dry jacket.

Jane: Vicki mad at Jane? *(Mother yelling insensible)*

Vicki: No, Jane is a lovely child. Vicki loves Jane. We're going to the park.

Mother: I'm warning you Victoria. Don't you take my Jane outside this house.

Victoria: *(Ignores Mother, talks to Jane)* Would Jane like to go to the park to play on the swing?

Jane: Jane loves Vicki.

Vicki: Let's go Jane. Never mind Mommy, she doesn't mean what she's saying.

Mother: *(yells as Vicki opens the door)* If you take Jane out there, don't EVER step foot back in this house again. *(A this is said, the door opens to see Zac about to knock on the door. he hears Mother's statement. Mother tries to get up, but falls back down on the chair and passes out once again. He looks at Mother in the house, and looks at Vicki and Jane leaving.)*

Lights go dark to show passing of time.

Mother: *(waking up)* Oh my head. Oh my. Oh my. Victoria will be home for supper soon. Jane what do you want for supper? Jane? Where are you? Jane? Jane answer me. Stop playing games with mommy. I'll tell Vicki on you. *(Looking and running through the house going in circles. She sees the pot, the blanket, the open door)* Oh my God. Oh my God she's gone. My baby. My little girl. What happened to her? Where did she go? *(She runs out of the house, screaming)* Jane! Jane! Has anyone seen my little girl?

Total silence to indicate the tension.

SCENE 4

Mother finds Vicki and Zac on the park bench talking. Jane is playing with children in the sand box in background. Mother is standing behind them all.

Zac; I never realized life was so hard at your house. All this time I thought you had it made.

Vicki: Zac if you only knew. I used to have it made one time, before she started drinking.

Zac: So your mom didn't always drink?

Vicki: Before Jane was born, Mom and Dad were as happy as two kids. You'd hear so much laughter in the house. We were always so close. You should have seen how excited they were when they knew they were having another child. But when Jane was born it was like Mom couldn't deal with a handicapped child. I think she was embarrassed by Jane and blamed herself. Jane needed more care, so Mom quit her job to be with Jane full time. Mom always loved Jane, but never had enough patience with her. Then Mom began drinking. Every night she'd have a few, then it would be afternoons and nights. Then it would be several bottles a week. Then you would find it in her coffee. Next Dad stopped coming home more and more. Seems his business always kept him away. Now I don't know what's to become of us.

Mother: Victoria. *(They look up to see Mother. She comes to kneel in front of her)* I am sorry. I love you so much. And I never meant to hurt you. But now I can't find Jane.

Vicki: She's alright Mom. Look over there, watch her play by the sandbox. *(Jane gets up with the other children and plays Ring Around The Rosie)* Jane is alright, I am alright, but what about you?

Mother: Victoria, I never realized before what I was doing to our family, but I know now and I's so sorry. I'm sorry for everything I put you through. I should have been a better mother to you. I want to try Victoria, I want to be the kind of mother that you'll be proud of. What can I do? It's too late for me now. I don't know what to do, I feel so helpless.

Vicki: Mother, it's never too late.

Mother: Vicki, tell me what to do.

Vicki: Mother, I can't tell you what to do. You can only help yourself. It's not too late to start over, if you are really willing to get help. Zac's mother is a social worker and she can help you. We can be like we used to be. We can be a family again, but it's up to you.

Mother: I want nothing more than to be a good mother to you and Jane. I only want what's best for you and Jane. So many times I ask myself what's going to happen to Jane?

Vicki: *(Hugs Mother)* Jane will be alright. I promise you, nothing bad will ever happen to her, but you need to get help. You NEED to get better.

Lights fade, then open on Mother before an assembly.

Mother: Hello, my name is Marian and I'm an alcoholic!

*Lights fade. **Let's Talk About Love** by Celine Dion.*