

**Amos Comenius Memorial School
Hopedale
presents**

“Cravings”

Cast

**Keira..... June Flowers
Jess..... Jillian Mitsuk
Keira’s Mother..... Jean Michelin
Matthew..... Sheldon Lane
Nadine..... Clara Flowers
Billy..... Sheldon Lane
Teacher..... Franciska Mitsuk
Doctor..... Jean Michelin
Jade..... Franciska Mitsuk**

Teacher Advisor

John Chamberlain

This play is a dramatization of a real life experience. Keira faces everyday problems like any other teenager but one day it goes too far. What are the consequences?

“Cravings”

SCENE 1 *(In the hallway at school; Billy & Keira walk in together)*

Billy: Look Keira, I need to talk to you.

Keira: Sure baby.

Billy: Listen, Keira, I don't think that things are working out between us and.....

Keira; What do you mean? I thought you loved me?

Billy: I do love you, but it's just not working out and I thought we would be better off as friends.

Keira: friends? Billy, you can't love a girlfriend as a friend.....

Billy: We can be friends and still talk to each other. I'm just tired of us fighting and arguing all of the time.

Keira: It's because I'm fat isn't it? But I can change, I love you.

(Nadine & Jess enter)

Billy: Please Keira, you are not fat. This is hard enough for me as it is. *(Exits showing his frustration. Nadine & Jess catch up to a disturbed looking Keira)*

Jess: Keira, what's wrong? *(She is very concerned)*

Keira; *(crying)* Billy just broke it off with me.

Nadine: *(comforting)* Don't feel so bad Keira, you can find better than him. Every guy in school wants to go out with you.

Jess: Yeah, don't be so down, all the guys are just like that; all lovey dovey one minute and then they break it off the next because they're sick of you. That's one thing I don't understand.

Keira: *(Still upset but recovering her composure)* I gotta go. I've had enough for one day. Bye guys. *(Exits)*

Jess: Poor Keira, I wish we could do something to cheer her up. *(Pause)* hey, I know just the thing! Why don't we have a sleep over? We can rent videos, eat lots of

junk food and stay up all night.

Nadine: That's a great idea. I can't wait! We'll invite Jade too. At least it'll help her get her mind off Billy.

(Scene ends, lights fade)

SCENE 2 *(A sleep-over at Jess's house. Jess, Keira, Nadine & Jade are all making girl talk, fixing each other's hair and so on.)*

Jess: So girls, what do you think of that Trevor guy?

Nadine: I find him hot.

Jade: Yeah, and he got a nice butt too!

Keira: I don't find him attractive at all.

Jess: Oh Keira, you're just saying that because you still have feelings for Billy.

Jade: I don't know what you see in that guy.

Keira: He's funny, smart, handsome.

Jade: Come on Keira. We threw this sleep-over for you to get over Billy, not to talk about him 24-7.

Jess: Yeah, Keira, cheer up a little for us.

Keira: I just can't believe he actually broke it off.

Nadine: Enough with boys. Who wants some pizza?

Jess: I do.

Keira: I don't feel like pizza.

Jess: Ah come on Keira, it's your favourite food. Remember last year at the volleyball tournament when you ate twice as much as all of us.

Keira: I can't eat at a time like this.

Jade: Leave her alone Jess. If she don't want to eat you can't make her.

Nadine: She hasn't eaten in over a week. You can't starve her.

Keira: God, you guys, you're talking about me like I'm not here. Plus, you can't starve me. I don't want to eat.

Jess: OK Keira, take a chill pill.

Jade: Guys, can we just switch the subject?

Jess: Jess, what do you think of the English teacher?

Jade: He's kinda weird.

Nadine: I like our music teacher better; Mr. Divine, mmmmmmm, mmmmm, mmmm.

Jess: I think our phys ed teacher looks better than both of those.

Keira: Talk about Mr. Divine, he's all that and a bag of chips; mmmm, mmmm, mmm.

(Phone rings and Jess picks it up)

Jess: Hello *(pause)* Yup, just a minute. It's for you Keira.

Keira: *(walks to the phone)* Oh hi Mom. *(Pause)* Yeah I had my supper. *(Pause)* Yeah, we're getting kinda tired. *(Pause)* Okay, love you too. Bye. *(Hangs up and goes over to the girls.)*

Jess: I'm going to sleep now.

Jade: Me too.

Keira: I'll doubt the lights.

(Lights fade and scene ends)

SCENE 3 *(Keira is getting ready for school, brushing her hair and looking in the mirror)*

Keira: God Keira, no wonder no one likes you, you are so fat.

(Mother calls out.)

Mother: Keira, hurry up, your breakfast is getting cold.

(Keira throws her brush into her bag and goes into the kitchen. Keira's brother, Matthew is sitting at the table and her mom is doing dishes.)

Keira: I'll skip the pancakes and just grab a juice box. The bus will be here soon.

Matt: Hey Bones, on a diet?

Keira: Shut up Peabrain! I'm not Bones and I'm not on a diet!

Mother: Hey guys, stop that! *(And, as she is getting a Nutrigrain bar, adds)* Here Keira, take this. You're a growing girl and you need your energy.

Keira; Yeah, yeah Mom, gotta go, my bus is coming.

Mother: Have a nice day at school, honey.

Matt: Bye Bones!

Keira: Shut up Peabrain! Bye Ma.

Mother: Be on time for supper.

(Keira exits. Lights go down.)

SCENE 4 *(Jess and Keira are at a table in the school cafeteria.)*

Jess: Mmm! This sure is good! I just love my mom's ham and cheese sandwiches; Keira, would you like a piece?

Keira: No thanks Jess, I'm not hungry.

Jess: What's with you today, still trying to get over Billy?

Keira; I'm sooo over him.

Jess: Subject change! So what did you do last night?

Keira: Nothing, just watched a movie with Matt.

Jess: What one?

Keira: Free Willy I think. God, it was boring.

Jess: *(Laughs)* Hey, here's Nadine. Hey, Nadine! Nadine, over here.

Nadine: Hey you guys.

Jess: Where have you been lately?

Nadine: Caught up with planning my trips.

Keira: Where to?

Nadine: Vancouver and Nebraska. I'm gonna spend whole days shopping while my dad goes to meetings.

Jess: You're so lucky.

Keira: I wish my mom would take me to Vancouver and Nebraska. I just get to stay here in the middle of nowhere.

(Bell rings and lights go down)

SCENE 5 *(Keira is sitting on her bed reading a magazine; Matt enters)*

Matthew: What are you reading Bones? Weight Watcher's guide book?

Keira: Shut up dipstick, you're such a kid. *(Throws pillow at him)* Grow up!

Matthew: *(taking pillow and sitting on the floor)* I'm getting as big as you, you what ? 90 pounds?

Keira: What do you expect, I'm a girl.

Matthew: Why do you think Billy broke up with you? He don't want to go out with a bag of bones.

Keira: Get out of my room. *(Begins to cry. Lies down and covers her head.)*

(Lights fade and stay and when they rise again Keira is sitting up in her bed writing in her diary. There is a voice tape over of Keira.)

Voice: Dear Diary, I'm having a really bad time. My boyfriend Billy broke up with me a couple of days ago. My Mom is on my back everyday, my brother's a jerk and I have a dumb assignment to finish. I bet if I was thinner this wouldn't have happened to me. I gotta go, someone is coming. Sincerely, Keira.

(There is a knock at the door and Matt enters)

Matthew: Keira, I didn't mean those things I said. I'm sorry. Mom said supper will be ready in five minutes.

Keira: It's OK peabrain. *(Matt walks out and Keira goes to the mirror)* Look at you, you're so fat. The next thing you know you'll be growing a pig's tail.

(Scene ends and lights fade.)

SCENE 6 *(Keira and Jess are at a table in a school classroom and they are apparently looking at Billy and Nadine at another table)*

Keira: Look at Nadine, she's such a traitor.

Jess: Oh Keira, you're just upset that's all. You look so pale. Is something wrong?

Keira: No, I'm just tired.

Jess: Look at yourself, this is not the Keira I know.

(Teacher enters)

Keira: *(Still preoccupied with Nadine & Billy)* She looks so innocent. She's drooling over him. I see her, I see right through her.

Teacher: OK everybody our lesson today is learning about yourself and others. *(She begins to write on the board.)*

Jess: Did you hear a word I said?

Keira: Yeah I heard you. You're just trying to stick up for her, you don't like me. Who does? I'm fat.

Jess: You have been acting so strange lately. What's wrong?

Keira: Nothings's wrong. It's just that I'm fat, I'm fat, I'm fat, I'm..... *(falls off her chair. Teacher runs over)*

Teacher: *(as she is bending down to attend to Keira)* Jessica, what happened here?

Jess: I don't know what's wrong, she just hasn't been eating lately.

Teacher: OK Everyone, go to the library.

(Lights fade. Lights rise and the teacher and Keira are alone)

Teacher: *(as Keira is getting up to a sitting position)* How do you feel?

Keira: *(Holds her head)* My head hurts.

Teacher: Yeah, you had quite a fall. So, I've heard that you haven't been eating lately.

Keira: Just for a few days.

Teacher: Have you been starving yourself?

Keira: Why do you care? I needed to lose a few pounds!

Teacher: I do care. If you have been starving yourself, you have a disease. It's called anorexia. It's an eating disorder that causes a person to be extremely underweight.

Keira: I don't have a disease. Like I said I just needed to lose a few pounds.

Teacher: It's more than an extreme desire to be thin. It is the way you feel about yourself and treatment is more than food. I want to see you three times a week so we can talk.

Keira: I'm not going to any counselling. I need to lose weight.

Teacher: Keira, I can't make you, but it will help you both physically and emotionally. After a couple of meetings you'll start to feel really good about yourself.

Keira: Look Miss Miller, I know you're trying to help but I can take care of myself. I think I'll leave now. *(Gets up to leave)*

Teacher: Keira, if you need anything, you know where I'll be.

Keira: Thanks Miss Miller. *(Walks off)*

(Lights fade)

SCENE 7 *(Keira is on her bed in her bedroom. Jess knocks and enters)*

Jess: Hey Keira, how are you feeling?

Keira: Totally bummed. I feel so drained.

Jess: Don't be so down. Look you're not fat. You're beautiful inside and out and everyone knows that, except maybe you. Now, you're my friend and I don't want to lose you.

Keira: Don't be so silly. I was talking to Miss Miller today and she says I have anorexia. I told her I wasn't going to any counselling sessions, but I thought about it and..... please tell her that I will be in on Wednesday to see her.

Jess: Sure, I'm glad to hear you say that. Oh yeah, on that assignment that you thought you bummed, well you got 92%.

Keira: Oh my God, I passed!

(Mother walks in)

Jess: I'm so proud of you! Hi Mrs. Warden *(Mother nods. Back to Keira)* I've got to go home before my mom takes a fit. Take care.

Keira: Hi Mom, what's up?

Mother: Well...your guidance counsellor just called and she said that you fainted in class. Keira, why didn't you tell me? She also said that you have anorexia, is this true?

Keira: I didn't think it was that bad!

Mother: Why do you do this to yourself? I care about you. I don't know what I would do if anything happened to you. *(Sits down beside her on the bed)* I love you Keira.

(Keira and Mother hug each other and begin to cry)

Keira: *(pushes away a bit, wipes her face and gathers composure)* I'm sorry Mom. I didn't mean to make you cry. It's just that life has been so hard lately and I feel so fat.

Mother: Well, on Monday both you and I will go to see Miss Miller. We will get through this, I promise. I know it will be really hard, but you'll pull through this with all the love and support of your family and friends. Keira, you're popular, beautiful and you're far from fat.

Keira: Thank you Mom.

Mother: Well, I have to get downstairs and get supper ready. *(Starts to leave)*

Keira: I love you, Mom.

Mother: *(walks back to Keira and kisses her on the cheek)* I love you too sweetie. *(Exits)*

(Keira sits for a while and then gets up and collapses on the floor. Lights fade and rise. Mother re-enters, notices her on the floor and rushes to her.)

Mother: Keira wake up, wake up....Keira.....No! No! Not my baby girl! Keira!

(Lights fade)

SCENE 8 *(hospital waiting room. Keira's mother and Matthew are pacing and fretting)*

Matthew: Mom, is she.....she going to be OK?

Mother: You know Keira, she'll pull through.

Matthew: I hope so.

Mother: What's taking them so long?

Matthew: Here comes the doctor.

(Doctor appears as Keira's mother turns to face him)

Mother: Well, how is she Doctor?

Doctor: Ms Warden. Keira hasn't been eating for a long time. I believe that she has lost half her body weight. And to make matters worse, she had quite a fall and with her weakened state of her body, well.....

Mother: Doctor *(very impatiently)* How is she?

Doctor: Ms warden, there is no easy way to tell you this, but....she didn't make it.

(Matthew tries to comfort his mother)

Mother: No, not my little baby. She can't be gone....she can't be.....

SCENE 9 *(At a church. There is organ music and Jess appears alone, facing the audience as if to face the congregation)*

Jess:

I just wanted everyone to know how much Keira meant to me so I wrote her this poem:

Dear Keira: Your memory lingers in my aching heart today because I loved you dearly. My heart aches with sadness and secret tears will flow, what it meant to lose you no one will ever know. God gave me a wonderful friend, your memory will never grow old, he fashioned your smile with sunshine and molded your heart with gold. I am a friend who misses you and finds the time long since you went. I think of you daily and hourly, but I will try to be brave and content. Please God let her know that I down here will not forget her, and I love her and miss her so. No matter where I am going, no matter what I do, there will always come a time when I stop and think of you. Keira, if I could make a wish tonight and know that it would come true, I wish I could phone heaven and ask to speak to you.

(Lights fade)

