

**St. Peter's School  
Black Tickle  
presents**

**“A Night In The Bay”**

**Cast**

**Jason..... Melissa Dyson  
Other persons..... Megan Hudson  
Troy Dyson  
Shane Parsons  
Ashley Keefe  
Shelli Dyson  
Crystal Keefe  
Stacey Roberts**

**Teacher Advisor..... Michael Brothers**

**Five teenagers go for a regular winter weekend trip in the bay and tragedy strikes.**

## **“ Night In The Bay”**

*(Setting: Split scene in which plans are being made for a party. Jessie and Toni are talking)*

**Jessie:** Hey Toni, what are you doing tonight?

**Toni:** Well, Jonathan asked if we were all going over to the pool hall.

**Jessie:** Jonathan? Isn't he a little wild?

**Toni:** Not too bad. I heard they all got caught drinking a while ago by their parents. I don't believe that. And he's so-o-o-o handsome.

**Jessie:** Toni, he had four serious girlfriends this past year. You could get your heart broken.

**Toni:** I'm not worried. He never even asked me out yet. But I am thinking about getting out with him tonight.

**Jessie:** I don't think that's a good idea because I think he might be seeing someone else.

**Toni:** So what if he is?

**Jessie:** That means he's unavailable which means he might break your heart.

*(Scene changes to the guys)*

**Michael:** Hey guys, any action going on tonight?

**Jason:** Let's go over to the pool hall. Tell the girls we'll be over there.

**Jonathan:** Why not get a couple dozen beer and get the girls. We can go in over the island and have a bit of fun, if you know what I mean! I think I am going to get with Toni tonight. I think she's a hot piece of gear.

**Jason:** What about your woman, Tina?

**Jonathan:** She is out of town. Besides, it's not like we're married, we're only dating.

**Michael:** You're a hard man, Jonathan.

**Jonathan:** You're only young once. Let's go get our buyer and get ready to go. By the way, it looked like Jessie had her eyes on you today Michael!

*(Phone rings. Scene changes over to the girls)*

**Toni:** Hello? *(Pause)* Hold on, I'll ask her. *(Puts phone down)* Jessie, the boys want to know if we want to go over to the island for a few beers, what do you think?

**Jessie:** If Michael is going too. Man! His eyes make me think of w---I---I---d things.

**Toni:** *(Mocks Jessie under her breath, while rolling her eyes)* Be still my foolish heart. *(Picks up phone)* Sure Jonathan, sounds like a plan. Come pick us up. *(Hangs up)*

**Jessie:** Man! This is going to be fun. I cannot wait. I hope Michael likes me.

*(Guys come pick up the girls and scene ends)*

**SCENE II** *(Group together. The group are in the cabin, drinking their beer)*

**Jonathan:** *(Opens up a beer and passes it around)* Here guys, have a bud and drink up. Toni, how's yer man, huh?

**Toni:** What makes you think I got one?

**Jonathan:** I figured a sexy girl like you would have a man wrapped around your little finger by now.

**Jason:** I figured you would too.

**Toni:** I have a few meaningful male friends but what about you Jonathan? How's your women?

**Jonathan:** What makes you think I have one? Just because I'm good looking doesn't mean I'm taken. If you know what I mean. *(They get close and hold hands)*

**SPLIT SCENE** *(Lights are on Michael and Jessie)*

**Michael:** Here Jess, this bud's for you.

**Jessie:** Really, I shouldn't be drinking. I don't want it.

**Michael:** Come on you wuse. What's wrong? A little beer won't hurt you, just a little taste.

**Jessie:** No, I just don't drink.

**Michael:** Just one beer will never hurt you.

**Jessie:** No, that's OK.

**Michael:** Sure it's good for ya. Even heart attack people drink one beer each day.

**Jessie:** Yes, I'm sure.

**Michael:** Yes, keeps their blood thin. Try one. *(He curls her hair around his finger.)*

**Jessie:** My parents would kill me if they smelled beer on me.

**Michael:** Go on Jess, one little beer. They won't smell one little beer. We won't be home for hours.

**Jessie:** W - e - l - l, u - m.

**Michael:** *(Leans closer)* One wee bottle. See how easy it is. *(Chugs his beer)*

**Jessie:** Boy, you sure like your beer. What are you doing tomorrow?

**Michael:** Well tonight is all that I'm thinking of. Are you having a good time?

**Jessie:** Oh fine. Wonder where Jonathan and Toni are?

**Michael:** Never mind about them. They got other issues. I sure hope he got his rubbers. You know I think there's a spot on your eye.

**Jessie:** Where?

**Michael:** *(Leans over, reaches out hand)* Right there. *(Kisses her on her lips)*

**Jessie:** Uh, oh. *(Jumps up, stands and drinks beer)*

**Michael:** *(gets up, walks towards her, staggers and stumbles)* Oh, I'm dizzy.

### **SCENE III** *(during the dance)*

**Jason:** Boy, I wish I had a woman. I'll never get one. *(Drinks beer, looks at*

*Jonathan and Toni dancing, then he drinks again*) This is as close to a woman as I'll ever get! LADY BUD!

**Jonathan:** Say something Jason?

**Jason:** Uh Uh. *(Drinking beer)* Nothing, just sitting back, watching you make out, just having a bud. *(Loud music playing in the background)*

**Toni:** Boy, Jason, you don't have to ruin a terrible song.

**Jessie:** Toni, that's not nice. Poor Jason is lonely.

**Jason:** *(Mimics Toni)* Poor Jason is lonely! Women! *(Drinks his beer, lights up a cigarette)*

**Jessie:** Hey! *(Looks at watch)* It's 11:00. We better be heading back. I don't want to get in trouble for staying out late.

*(They get out on skidoos, staggering as they go. They drive like crazy around the stage, having a fun time. Group quiets down)*

**Jason:** Hey, the weather is getting ugly. I wonder if the ice is safe? I'm gonna try it anyway. Old Harry went over worse ice. *(Goes on)*

**Toni:** Jonathan, can you see Jason up ahead?

**Jonathan:** No, not me. Damn fool went too fast. You'd think he'd wait for us.

**Toni:** He must have gone over ice.

**Jonathan:** We're going over ice too. *(They go on)*

**Toni:** Jonathan, should we go over this?

**Jonathan:** Yeah, nothing to it.

**Toni:** Well, I'm kinda nervous.

**Jonathan:** Ah, don't be such a wussy!

**Toni:** Maybe I'll walk. *(Offers to get off the skidoo)*

**Jonathan:** My God, women! Walk?? We won't get back there for another three or four hours.

**Jason:** Wow, the weather is getting worse and worse. I hope everyone's OK.  
*(When he slows down we hear the ice crack and hear screams) What? No.....(He turns to go back) My God, I can't get over there. The ice is breaking! Oh sweet Jesus help me. (Screams) Jonathan, Toni, Jessie, Michael! Oh my God! Don't tell me. What am I gonna do? How can I get over there? (Silence enters the room and the lights go out) What am I gonna do? I just lost all my best friends.*

**SCENE IV** *(In hospital. Jason is asleep in bed., mother is by his side. His left hand is wrapped)*

**Mother:** *(Takes Jason's hand) Jason, Jason (Gentle voice) I know you can hear me. Jason. (Brushes his hair away) Jason wake up. I love you my darling. Everything will be Ok. Jason. Jason. Jason. Oh, please wake up! (Wipes face with cloth) dear God, please look down on my son here today. He's my only child, you took his father from me only three years ago. All these years I couldn't guide him the way Peter would have. But I gave him so much. He's so much like his father. Please don't let my boy die. Please make him well. Dear Jesus hear my prayer. (Leans over to kiss his forehead. Jason moves his hand, then groans painfully) Jason, Jason, Doctor, Doctor. (She runs out the hall, yelling) Doctor, Doctor.*

*(Doctor and nurse come rushing in)*

**Mother:** He's getting better. He moved his fingers, his head and he made a sound.

**Nurse:** A sound? Are you sure? What kind of sound?

*(Jason groans. Doctor and nurse go over to examine Jason)*

**Doctor:** *(Checks pulse, heart rate and lifts his eyelids) Um, perhaps.....(Slowly lifts Jason's arm) Nurse, could you hand me his chart? (Mother acts excited and scurries around and tries to get the chart) Nurse, take Mrs. White down to the cafeteria for a cup of coffee.*

**Mother:** No, I don't want to go. I'm staying right here, where I was all week. I don't need coffee.

**Doctor:** Mrs. White, please take a little break. He'll be fine. I need a little time to examine him.

**Mother:** I wanna stay. I'll be over here in the corner, out of your way. When he wakes up, he'll want to see me.

**Doctor:** Yes, Mrs. White and I'll call you right away. But I need to do some tests.

**Nurse:** Come on Mrs. White. We won't go far. *(They leave)*

**Doctor:** *(Looks at heart monitor. Writes into the chart, checks pulse, heart rate and blood pressure. Jason groans again)* Jason, can you hear me? Jason?

**Jason:** Uh uh. *(Slowly opens his eyes)* Where am I?

*(Mother comes in)*

**Mother:** He spoke! He's awake! *(Runs over to his bed)* Jason, Jason! *(Kisses his cheek)*  
Thank God you're awake.

**Jason:** What - wha- what happened? Where am I? What am I doing here?

**Mother:** Do you remember anything dear?

**Jason:** Why am I here? What's wrong with my hand? \*Tries to lift it)

**Mother:** Dear, you had a terrible shock. Your hand is frost bitten.

**Jason:** Shock, frost bitten, what's going on? Where's Jonathan?

**Mother:** Don't you remember anything at all about that night?

**Jason:** That night? What night?

**Nurse:** Maybe that's enough for now. Jason needs a rest and gather his strength.

**Jason:** *(Closes his eyes, slowly says)* Don't leave me, Mom. Get Jonathan to call me.  
*(Goes back to sleep)*

**Mother:** Doctor, how are we going to tell him about the accident?

**Doctor:** We have a very good counsellor that works with these cases. Nurse Green will call for the counsellor to come in tomorrow when Jason is awake and comfortable.

*(Lights go out briefly. When they come back up, Mother and Jason are sitting side by side. Counsellor comes in and sits with Mother and Jason)*

**Mother:** Here's the counsellor now.

**Jason:** Mother, I keep asking you to tell Jonathan and the gang to call me. Why don't they call? Why don't they visit?

**Mother:** *(Looks at the counsellor)* Well Jason, you see..... well, you remember the accident? Don't you?

**Jason:** I remember the night at the cabin. I remember being on the skidoo riding. Seems like the weather was bad. Anyway where's Jonathan?

**Mother:** Oh, this is so hard.

**Jason:** What are you talking about? Get on with it.

**Mother:** Jason *(turns to counsellor)* you tell him. I can't.

**Counsellor:** Could you tell me about your friends?

**Jason:** Jonathan, Michael, why don't they call? What about the girls?

**Counsellor:** Did you all go skidooing together before you were hurt?

**Jason:** Yes, we had a few beers, got the girls and .....I remember bad weather.

**Counsellor:** Do you remember anything after that?

**Jason:** Sometimes I hear a funny sound which seems like breaking glass. I don't know why I keep hearing the same funny noises.

*(Mother puts her head in her hands, crying silently)*

**Counsellor:** *(Reaches out and pats his head)* Jason, you know you had a terrible shock. You know you were on skidoo and you got lost in bad weather.

**Jason:** Yes, I remember the weather.

**Counsellor:** About your friends. In the bad weather, you went over thin ice. Jason I have to tell you that you made it across, but your friends weren't so lucky. I'm afraid they broke through.

**Jason:** *(We hear ice breaking sounds)* No, No! *(Covers his ears)* Make the sound stop! It's not true! Tell me it's not true! *(Cries pitifully then lights fade)*

**SCENE V** *(Jason is at home with his mother. He is sitting at the table, playing cards)*

**Mother:** Jason, what do you want for supper?

**Jason:** I'm not hungry. I don't want anything to eat.

**Mother:** Jason, you have to eat something. (Reads newspaper. We hear voices)

**Jessie:** I got to be home before eleven.

**Jason:** Not again! (Covers his head)

**Michael:** Jason help me!

**Toni:** Help! Help!

**Jason:** Stop it! Leave me alone!

*(Mother looks at him)*

**Toni:** I'm so cold. So cold.

**Jonathan:** Jason help me. I can't swim.

**Jason:** Shut up! Shut up I tell you.

**Mother:** Jason, Jason are you all right? *(Ice cracking noise)*

**Jason:** Why can't they leave me alone. It's not my fault. Jonathan you brought the beer. I didn't want to go drinking. *(Shakes his fist in the air)* Why can't you leave me alone? *(Grabs his head)* No, No, No. Leave me alone! I can't live with this!

**Mother:** Dear, it's time for you to get some good help. The hospital counsellor is real good with people who have had traumatic experiences like this. What about it?

**Jason:** *(Stands up)* I'M NOT CRAZY!

**Mother:** No, you're not crazy. But you need help. You need to get this off your shoulders. Do you remember what she said "I'm only a phone call away".

**Jason:** I'm telling you, don't dare call that old bat! I don't need to see a shrink! I don't need to see and I don't want to see any nosey old counsellors, psychiatrists, priest, nuns, teachers...anyone who will tell me they understand.

**Mother:** Jason, you have just lost four of your best friends and you could have died yourself. For the past month you couldn't even go to school.

**Jason:** Go to school! Yes, I could just see it all now. When I walk in the door, they'll all stare at me and whisper.

**Mother:** Jason, they are your friends. They were so worried when you were lost in the storm, when you were unconscious in the hospital.

**Jason:** Yeah, it took them long enough to come and see me in the hospital, didn't you notice?

**Mother:** At first your condition was too serious to allow visitors. When you began to recover you didn't want to see them.

**Jason:** How could I see anyone after hearing about Jonathan, Michael, Toni and Jessie?

**Mother:** This is why you should see and talk to a counsellor. You shouldn't have all these feelings bottled up inside you.

**Jason:** I'll be alright on my own.

**Mother:** You're not alright on your own. You never go anywhere. When people come by you go and lock yourself in your room. Almost every day you hear these voices. Every night you all out to Jonathan, Michael, Toni and Jessie in your sleep, I hear you crying in your sleep and you get up sleep walking. One night I even found you out in the snowbank in your bare feet, wondering how you got there. Jason you do need help and you need it now.

**Jason:** I'll talk to you now and then. I'm not going back to school. I don't need an education.

**Mother:** You damn well need an education! No son of mine is going to quit school! You need to get your life back on track. Dropping out of school won't help!

**Jason:** I can't face people now.

**Mother:** What are you going to do four or five years down the road. I'm not going to be around here forever.

**Jason:** The counsellor will think I'm crazy.

**Mother:** The counsellor has seen worse people than you. The counsellor is there to help you, not to judge you. Please talk to her.

**Jason:** OK. make the call. *(Mother picks up the phone)*

**Mother:** Yes, may I speak to Mrs. Powers? Yes I'll wait. *(After a pause)* Mrs. Powers, I'm calling concerning my son Jason. He needs someone to talk to.

**SCENE VI** *(Jason is at school giving out awards)*

**Jason:** Thank you for inviting me to speak to you and present the first annual best friends award. Our accident was only five months ago. As we look forward to the summer sunshine, beach parties and boat rides, I just don't know how I'll do it without my four friends.

When we went out on a little bender that February night, little did we expect it would be our last good time together. I remember that all I was thinking was that since I couldn't get a woman, I might as well get drunk. I'll always miss my four friends. I almost quit school altogether. It took me four months of good counselling for me to pull my life together and get back on my feet. I learned a lot from that tragic night. I can promise the next taste of alcohol I will have will be after I am 19 years of age. Believe me, I learned my lesson. When I am old enough to drink and if I do drink again I will be drinking responsibly.

As I conclude, I thank my mother who raised me by herself after the death of my father. If that wasn't hard enough, she had the extra worry of helping me cope with being an only survivor of the accident, one that need never to have happened.

Finally I thank you who have remained my friends even when I thought I didn't need you. I ask one and all to look after each other and learn to have a good time without alcohol and drugs.