

**St. Mary's All Grade School  
Mary's Harbour  
presents**

**"One Voice"**

**Cast**

**Carol Windfield..... Lori Rumbolt  
Linda Windfield..... Brenda Spearing  
John Windfield..... Alisha Rumbolt  
Lorraine Richards ..... Niki Rumbolt  
Mandy Blake..... Gina Pye  
Officer Johnson..... Cindy Samson  
Lisa Green..... Denika Letemplier**

**Teacher Advisor.....Jennifer Rumbolt**

## “One Voice”

**SCENE I** *(A girl is standing in the middle of the stage, with lights shining on her)*

**Carol:** Hi! My name is Carol. I’m going to tell you something that happened to me a couple of years ago. My parents, especially my father, I suppose you could say, treated me like dirt. I still carry those scars of those recent years with me. It all began when I was 12 years old.

**John:** Where’s your mother?

**Carol:** I’m not sure. I think she’s gone out.

**John:** I know she’s gone out stupid! She’s not here! *(Carol is sweeping the floor)* Are you listening to me?

**Carol:** Yes daddy! *(Carol is frightened.)*

**John:** I told you before, I’m not your father! Don’t ever call me daddy again or you’ll get what’s coming to you! *(John gets up and pours another drink, pushes Carol out of the way.)* Get out of my way! *(Carol places broom on the floor and exits to the bedroom. Meanwhile, John returns to the table with his drink and Linda enters.)* Where were you?

**Linda:** Out! Besides it’s none of your business!

**John:** You S!#! *(Linda cuts in before he can finish.)*

**Linda:** Shut up, John! I’m sick and tired of coming home and finding you drunk! Why don’t you get a life? Where’s Carol?

**John:** In her room, where she belongs! That little brat!

**Linda:** *(Sings out to Carol)* Carol! Get out here! What is she doing? Carol get out here right now before I have to come and drag you out by the hair! *(Carol enters room)* Did you sweep the floor?

**Carol:** Yes!

**Linda:** Did you scrub them?

**Carol:** No. But I moped them yesterday!

**Linda:** That was yesterday! Get the bucket and scrub the floors! Now!

*(Carol just stands there for a second not doing anything)*

**John:** Well, you heard your mother! Now go scrub the floor!

*(Carol leaves the stage and returns with a bucket and a cloth. She gets down on her hands and knees and starts scrubbing the floor. Meanwhile, John and Linda are having another drink when Carol accidentally knocks over the bucket. John jumps up and starts yelling at Carol.)*

**John:** You stupid thing! Can't you do anything right? Clean that up right now. Me and your mother work hard to keep this house clean and nice. We don't need a mistake like you messing everything up.

**Carol:** It was an accident! I swear!

**Linda:** Accident! Sure that's what it was! An accident! *(Point to the door)* Get out NOW! And don't come back any time soon!

**Carol:** But it's cold.

**John:** So what! Not like we have to go out in it! Now get! *(Pushes her towards the door)*

**Linda:** *(gets up)* I'm going over to see Jane. You coming?

**John:** No you go on! I'm going to stay here and have another drink.

**Linda:** Fine! Suit yourself! *(Exits)*

**John:** I got to use the damn bathroom again. What do they put in this stuff? *(Looks at his glass)*

**SCENE II** *(Carol walking across the stage and meets up with Lisa)*

**Carol:** Hi Lisa!

**Lisa:** Hi! Your parents drive you out of the house too?

**Carol:** Yeah!

**Lisa:** My parents kick me out all the time! I spend more time on the street than I do at home. And they don't even give me a jacket. All the old woman wants me for is her damn slave anyway!

**Carol:** I know the feeling of being treated like a slave. That's the reason I'm here. I made one little mistake and they boot me out the door.

**Lisa:** One of these days I'm going to get the old lady back for everything she ever did to me! The old hag is going to pay!

**Carol:** I wish I had enough nerve to do that! If I ever tried to say anything to them, they would kill me.

**Lisa:** Well, I'm surprised I'm not dead! The beatings I get are getting worse. The old lady beats me black and blue. Next thing you know it'll be my funeral.

**Carol:** I don't think my beatings can get worse.

**Lisa:** Man this sucks! I wonder do they realize that it not only hurts us on the outside but practically kills us on the inside.

**Carol:** Probably not!

**Lisa:** My heart and soul is damaged for life! Just knowing that the people that are supposed to love and protect me are hurting me so bad!

**Carol:** Yeah, well anyway, I got to go try to get back in the house before I freeze to death.

**Lisa:** I suppose I should get home and suck up to Mom! See if I can get back in the house too.

**Carol:** Yeah, well see ya.

**Lisa:** Call me later! *(Both exit stage)*

**SCENE III** *(Carol opens door and looks in. She doesn't see anyone)*

**Carol:** Good, everyone's gone! I can come in for a while and get warm and dry and disappear before anyone knows I'm home.

**John:** *(Enters the stage. He sees her and gets mad)* What are you doing here? We sent you outdoors!

**Carol:** But it's cold outside Daddy.

**John:** Don't call me daddy!

**Carol:** Sorry. *(Tries to calm down when she starts coughing uncontrollably)*

**John:** SHUT UP!

**Carol:** *(Still coughing)* I can't.

**John:** Well, I'll just have to shut you up then, won't I?

**Carol:** No, please don't.

**John:** *(Walks over and hits Carol and knocks her to the floor. Carol cries)* Shut up I said.

**Carol:** Please don't, you're hurting me!

**John:** *(Takes a few steps back)* If you tell anyone about this young lady then, Lord only knows what I'll do to you next time. I won't be responsible for my actions, that's for sure. *(Turns to leave the room, then stops and turns around again)* I'm going to bed I suggest you do the same.

**Carol:** *(sitting against the wall crying and pounding on the floor with her fist.)* I don't know why he hates me so much. I'm his daughter, even though he won't admit it! I just want him to love me. Is that too much to ask from your own father?

**John:** *(Yells from his bedroom)* Keep the damn noise down!

*(Carol gets up off the floor and sits at the table and begins to cry silently)*

**SCENE IV** *(Linda is sitting at the table when John walks in)*

**John:** Has Carol got breakfast ready yet?

**Linda:** Carol isn't up yet.

**John:** Carol! *(No answer)* Carol *(Still no answer)*. John goes right over by the door and yells.) Carol, get down here and get breakfast right now! *(Goes back to the table and sits down. Meanwhile Linda is reading the paper. Carol enters and begins to prepare eggs. John is looking at bills)* I'm going to have to look around and see if I can find a job. Bills, bills, bills! Enough to make you sick! *(Gets up and is about to leave when Carol speaks)*

**Carol:** Are you going to have any breakfast?

**John:** Why would I eat anything that you cooked? I ate dirt that tasted better than your cooking. *(Gets his coat and heads for the door)* Don't wait up! I could be late *(exits)*

*(Linda is filing her nails. Carol is staring at her mother.)*

**Linda:** Oh my God! I forgot all about Lorraine coming over! What are you staring at?

**Carol:** Nothing.

**Linda:** Ya and lets keep it that way. Now get the house cleaned up before Lorraine gets here. *(Someone at the door)*

**Lorraine:** Hi Carol! Is your mother here?

**Carol:** She's getting changed. She said to come in.

**Lorraine:** How are you doing?

**Carol:** Fine thanks.

**Lorraine:** So, how's school?

**Carol:** Good! Thanks!

**Lorraine:** Carol, how did you get that bruise on your face?

**Carol:** *(looks down)* I don't know.

**Lorraine:** You know, Carol, if you need someone to talk to I'll be here.

**Carol:** Thanks, but there's no need.

*(Linda enters and looks at Carol)*

**Linda:** Carol my love, go sit on the couch, will you my darling?

**Carol:** *(bewildered)* oh, OK sure Mom. *(Gets up and goes over and sits down. Lorraine looks at Linda)*

**Lorraine:** You're looking nice today Linda.

**Linda:** Same to you.

**Lorraine:** Can I ask you something?

**Linda:** Sure, what is it?

**Lorraine:** What happened to Carol's face?

**Linda:** What do you mean what happened to Carol's face? I suppose you think I did it! Well, my dear, I never asked you over to talk about Carol. If Carol's welfare is all you're worried about then you might as well leave.

**Lorraine:** Well, if that's how you feel, then I will go. And Carol don't forget what I told you. *(Exits. Linda closes door and looks at Carol)*

**Linda:** Carol, what was that all about?

**Carol:** What do you mean?

**Linda:** Don't play stupid with me, dear lady. Lorraine just looked at you and said 'Don't forget what I told you Carol'.

**Carol:** Oh um, she just told me if I needed anyone to talk to she would be there. That's all.

**Linda:** Where does she get off poking her nose in other people's business? It's none of her concern what's going on around here. *(Linda is savage)* And you were going to tell her weren't you?

**Carol:** Tell her what?

**Linda:** There we go again! Playing stupid! Tell her what's been going on around here. Weren't you?

**Carol:** No Mom! I wasn't going to say anything! Honest!

**Linda:** I know damn well! *(Slaps her, pushes her, etc)* Just wait until I tell your father! He'll kill you!

**Carol:** *(trying to talk through her sobbing)* I wasn't going to say anything! Honest!

**Linda:** *(ignores Carol. Turns to leave, but stops and looks at Carol)* And don't even dream about going anywhere until your father gets home! *(Turns and walks towards the bedroom)*

**Carol:** I got to get out of here. But where can I go? Come on! Carol think! I can go to Lorraine's house. She said if I ever needed her she would be there and I've never needed anyone so bad in my life. *(Carol practically runs to the door. As she is about to leave her father walks through the door)*

**John:** Where are you going in such a rush?

**Carol:** Uh, ah, nowhere. Just for a walk.

**John:** Well, if you want to go for a walk, then just walk yourself into the kitchen with this. *(Hands her a 26er in a paper bag. Carol hesitates, but does what she is told. John sings out to Linda)* Linda, get out here! *(Carol hurries off stage to her bedroom. Linda enters)*

**Linda:** *(looks around)* Where's Carol?

**John:** In her room!

**Linda:** John, sit down. I need to talk to you about something. Nut don't get upset. *(Both go over and sit down)* Lorraine was here today.

**John:** Lorraine who?

**Linda:** Lorraine Richards. Anyway, I was getting dressed and when I came out I found Carol talking to her.

**John:** So?

**Linda:** If you would shut up and let me finish, then you wouldn't have to ask such stupid questions.

**John:** Well, spit it out, maid.

**Linda:** Well, as I was saying, I came out and found them talking. And I think little miss Carol told Lorraine what's been going on around here.

**John:** *(Jumps up. Knocks over chair)* So help me God! I'll kill her! She's going to get it this time.

**Linda:** *(calmly)* Well, it's entirely up to you what you do with the brat! I'm going over to the club for a game of pool.

**John:** I'd love to come to, but I have some business to deal with.



**Linda:** Well, I won't be home till late. *(Gets her coat and exits)*

**John:** Carol, get out here! *(Carol doesn't come out)* Get out here right now! *(Still doesn't come out)* You got 15 seconds or I am coming in there. *(Carol still doesn't come out)* You're going to get what you deserve! Child or not! Well, you won't be after I'm finished with you! *(John undoes belt and button.)*

**SCENE V** *Carol is sitting on the kitchen floor with a bottle of pills. After a while she opens the bottle and pours out a handful. She puts them up to her mouth and nearly takes them, but instead she throws them across the floor)*

**Carol:** Damn him! He's not worth killing myself for! I need to talk to someone! Lorraine! She's only next door. *(Gets up, goes to phone and dials)* Is Lorraine there? Oh Hi! Um, can you come over? *(Begins to cry)* An hour or two is too long! I need you now! Please! OK thanks. *(Paces floor)*

**Lorraine:** Carol what's wrong? Why have you been crying? Has someone hurt you?  
*(Carol and Lorraine go over to table and sit down. Carol looks at Lorraine and begins to cry)*

**Lorraine:** Carol, come on sweetie, you can tell me what's **wrong**.

**Carol:** Mom *(sniff)* and *(sniff)* Dad have, have, have been *(start to cry a lot)* abusing me.

**Lorraine:** Oh my God! Carol baby, that's a serious problem. We have to let someone know. I know! We can call Mandy Blake at Social Services Office.

**Carol:** *(still sobbing)* Do *(sniff)* you think she can help me *(sniff, wipes her eyes)*

**Lorraine:** Yes honey! I'm sure she can. I'm going to phone her, OK?

**Carol:** OK.

**Lorraine:** *(gets up and walks to the phone)* Is Mrs. Blake there? *(Pause)* Hello Mrs. Blake, this is Lorraine Richards. Would it be possible to come over to John and Linda Windfield's house? It's very urgent. *(Pause)* thanks, bye. *(Carol looks at Lorraine)* She said she would be over shortly. She is only a few blocks away.

**Carol:** Good. *(Pause)* What do you think will happen?

**Lorraine:** I'm sure everything will turn out alright, Carol.

**Carol:** I hope so. *(Pause)* What's taking her so long?

**Lorraine:** She'll be here soon. Don't worry. *(A knock comes at the door)* That must be Mrs. Blake. *(Answers the door)*

**Mandy:** Hello, you must be Lorraine. I'm Mandy Blake.

**Lorraine:** Hi, come on in. *(Both walk back to table)* Carol, this is Mrs. Blake.

**Mandy:** Please call me Mandy.

**Carol:** *(shyly)* Hi.

**Mandy:** So how can I be of help to you both today?

**Lorraine:** Well Carol told me that her parents have been abusing her.

**Mandy:** *(Looks at Carol)* Carol, would you like to tell me about this?

**Carol:** I don't know where to start.

**Lorraine:** Just take your time.

**Carol:** Well, it started a couple of years ago. One night I got in trouble for something and my parents really got mad. They pushed me around and hit me. Then I thought I deserved it. You know, for being bad. But then almost every night they would hit me and yell at me. It seemed like they were taking pleasure from my pain. That's when I realized this wasn't right. I couldn't tell anyone. I was too scared. I was afraid that if they found out they would kill me. But last night was it! I wasn't going to put up with anything else from them. *(Looks back at table)*

**Mandy:** Carol, is there anything else you want to tell us? Correct me if I'm wrong, but it seems like you're holding something back.

**Carol:** *(looks at Mandy)* How did you know?

**Mandy:** I've worked with many children in your position. It is quite common for people not to tell the whole story. I suppose you can say that you can hear it in their voice. Once the whole story is out, they don't sound so stressed. But I can still sense tension and stress coming from you.

**Carol:** There is more to this story. But if I tell you, promise you won't think any differently of me. *(Looks at Mandy and Lorraine)*

**Lorraine:** We aren't here to judge you. We're here to help you. Besides, it's not your fault

what they did to you.

**Carol:** Well OK. Here it goes. At first my parents would just hit me and yell at me. Until last night. Mom told Dad how I was talking to you. *(Looks at Lorraine)* Dad got really mad, because he thought I told you about what was going on around here. So when Mom left he came up to my door and started yelling out to me. *(Takes a deep breath, trying not to cry)* I put a pillow over my head to drown him out. I succeeded for a while, but then I looked up and there he was. Stood up looking at me. He looked like a wild animal ready to kill his prey. He was just stood there looking at me with fire in his eyes. I honestly thought he was going to kill me but what he did was worse. He took away my morals, made me feel cheap, stripped me of the one thing I held dear to me. My self respect. *(Cries)*

**Lorraine:** It's OK now, carol. I'm here for you. Mandy and I won't let that awful man touch you ever again. You're safe now. Don't worry.

**Carol:** Don't ever leave me Lorraine! I need you.

**Lorraine:** *(starting to cry)* I won't ever leave you. Don't worry *(takes her hand)*

**Mandy:** *(stands up)* Well, this is a serious problem and something definitely needs to be done about it.

**Lorraine:** That's for sure. Carol's been put through too much already. She doesn't need to deal with this any more.

**Mandy:** The first thing I have to do is find Carol a place to stay.

**Lorraine:** Carol can stay with me. Permanently if she likes.

**Mandy:** How do you feel about that Carol?

**Carol:** I'd go anywhere to get out of this house.

**Mandy:** It's settled then. You'll stay with Lorraine. Carol, why don't you go get your things together. I have to make a quick call.

**Carol:** Who do you have to call?

**Mandy:** I have to phone the police.

**Carol:** *(upset)* No! You can't! You said you wouldn't tell anyone!

**Mandy:** This is a very serious case, Carol. The police need to be notified so they can come over and take your parents down to the station.

**Carol:** OK, but promise you won't say anything to anyone else.

**Mandy:** I promise I won't say anything to anyone else. Now, you and Lorraine go and get your things together. *(Carol and Lorraine leave stage. Mandy picks up phone and dials number)* Hello, this is Mandy Blake calling from Social Services. I need you to send a police officer to the Windfields house at 15 Elm St. Thanks.

*(Lorraine and Carol return with a suitcase with Carol's things in it)*

**Mandy:** They said they would have an officer here in a few minutes.

**Carol:** Good! The sooner my parents are gone, the better.

**Mandy:** While we're talking about them, where are they?

**Carol:** I don't know. They're always gone somewhere. All they ever tell me is that they are going out for the day.

**Lorraine:** Well, the law will take this matter into their hands now, but after that I don't know what will happen. All I know it's not over yet.

**Carol:** What do you mean? It's not over yet?

**Mandy:** Carol, you still have a lot ahead of you. You will probably have to go to court and testify against them. But, Carol, it will all be worth it once they're locked up. *(A knock comes on the door)* That must be the officer. *(Goes and answers the door)*

**Officer Johnson:** Good day Ma'am. I'm Officer Johnson. I got a call saying you needed an officer at this residence.

**Mandy:** Yes, I'm Mandy Blake. I work with Social Services. Please come in *(Officer Johnson enters)* This is Carol Windfield and Lorraine Richards. If you could come over here for a minute I'll fill you in on what's been going on around here. *(Officer Johnson and Mandy go over to the right side of stage and have a conversation)*

**Lorraine:** You can sleep in Joanna's room. She's gone away to university.

**Carol:** Anything will do. As long as I'm out of this house, I don't care.

**Officer Johnson:** *(looks at Carol)* I'm sorry you had to go through all of this. Believe me, justice will be served. Meanwhile, you'll be staying with Mrs. Richards.

**Carol:** Yes.

**Officer Johnson:** Well, that's settled. I just need you to come down to the station to give a statement tomorrow.

**Carol:** OK. And what's going to happen to my parents?

**Officer Johnson:** Well, after we're finished with them, they will never touch you again.

*(John and Linda come in through the door and stop and look at everyone.)*

**John:** What the hell is going on here?

**Linda:** Everyone out! Now!

**Officer Johnson:** *(walks over to John and Linda)* You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law, so I suggest you stay quiet.

**John:** I'll get you, you little brat.

*(Carol starts to cry)*

**Linda:** Not before I do! Once I'm free, I'll kill you! You better watch your back missy.

*(Officer Johnson, Linda, John and Mandy exit. Lorraine and Carol step forward)*

**Lorraine:** Let's go home. *(Carol and Lorraine go to leave, but Carol stops and turns around to take one last look at the house. All characters come back on stage)*

*(John and Linda walk forward)*

**John:** There are children all over the world being abused day in and day out.

**Linda:** If you know of any abuse going on, please contact someone about it, before it gets too bad and someone ends up seriously hurt.

*(John and Linda step back. Lorraine walks out)*

**Lorraine:** If you are a victim of abuse, you may feel scared and alone at times, but

remember, there is always someone there to help you. It could be a neighbour, parent, teacher or friend. But there is always someone to help.

*(Lorraine walks back and Lisa walks forward)*

**Lisa:** If you are the person causing the abuse, then here are a few things to think about. Being abused not only physically hurts you, but emotionally scars you for life. By being abused by people who are supposed to love you, you never really find out what love is really like. You will also probably never be able to love anyone as you get older. All your memories of love will be about being yelled at and pushed around. Abuse is also a very serious crime. So please don't take your anger out on people. You can ruin a life like that!

*(Lisa walks back and Mandy and officer Johnson walk forward)*

**Mandy:** If you find that no one wants to believe what's happening, then go to your Social Services office or police department. That's what we're here for - to help you.

**Officer Johnson:** Our doors are always open and we are always willing to help you, so don't ever think, not for a minute, that no one will help you. We will always be here!

*(Mandy and Officer Johnson walk back, Carol comes forward)*

**Carol:** There are a lot of cases of child abuse today and it's about time that someone, anyone help put a stop to this awful crime. You're probably wondering how can I help? You can talk about it with your children and tell them what to do if anyone they know is getting abused. Every little thing helps. If you think a child or anyone is getting abused, then tell someone. You could be saving that person a lot of pain. I hope you have a better understanding about abuse and how common and serious it is. So let your voices be heard and try to stop the cries of the poor children. *(Steps back into position)*

*(All characters stand in middle of stage and hold hands)*

**Characters:** Lend a helping hand!

*(Lights go out)*