

**Our Lady Queen of Peace School (Hicks)
Happy Valley-Goose Bay
presents**

“Hidden Friend”

Cast

**Chantelle Small
Tara Rademacher
Myron Baggs
Victor Ryan
Heather Brown
Joseph Otto
Kayla Best
Amanda Cull
Heather Austin
Karla Poole
Amanda Earle**

Technicians

**Shavonne Pye-Strowbridge
Eric Burry**

Teacher Advisor

John Hicks

SCENE I - The Wilkinson's house. Morning

Ms W: Tommy, wake up! Tommy are you up yet? Tommy, it's quarter after seven, if you don't get up now, you'll miss the bus! (*Anger progressing*)

Tommy: I'm up Mom.....

Ms W: Get down here and eat your breakfast.

Tommy: I'm coming! What's for breakfast?

Ms W: Come down and see. (*Tommy enters kitchen*) I made you pancakes!

Tommy: Gee thanks Mom but I'm really not hungry. I'm going to go meet Andrew at the bus stop.

Emily: Oh goodie, more for me. (*Takes more pancakes*)

Ms W: (*Sighing*) I swear there's something wrong with that boy! He's been awful moody lately. Do you know anything about that Emily?

Emily: (*With her mouth full*) Nope, but he hasn't been teasing me as much as he usually does.

SCENE II - At the bus stop

Andrew: Hey Tommy! What's up?

Tommy: Nothing, why?

Andrew: Don't tell me, it's nothing.

Tommy: Well, it's not really your business.

Andrew: Don't tell me it's Damien again isn't it?

Tommy: Yeah it is. He just won't leave me alone.

Andrew: You gotta fight back. Even if you know he'll win. If you don't, he will own you and bully you for the rest of your life.

Tommy: Yeah, I guess you're right.

Andrew: I heard Mom say that the bus was going to be late, so let's start walking.

SCENE III - *Classroom. They are late.*

Tommy: I think we made it!

Andrew: Or not!

Mrs. E: Boys, you're late!

Andrew: The buses were behind schedule so we decided to walk.

Mrs. E: They still got here before you did.

Andrew & Tommy: Yes Mrs. Ellsworth. *(Rolls eyes)*

Mrs. E: Hurry up and get to your seats. Class has started.

SCENE IV - *On the playground. Andrew and Damien get in a fight. Tommy is on the playground waiting for Andrew to join him.*

Tommy: Great, time for lunch! But where's Andrew?

Damien: Hey dork, where's your lunch? I'm getting hungry.

Andrew: *(enters scene)* Leave him alone y-y-you jerk!

Damien: You're askin for it ain't you dweeb?

Andrew: I just don't want you stealing our lunches.

(Andrew and Damien get into a huge fight. Unfortunately it attracts the attention of their teacher, Mrs. Ellsworth.)

Mrs. E: *(very angry)* Stop fighting right now! You all just march yourselves right into the principal's office!

SCENE V - *In the principal's office. Boys get suspended*

Mrs. Carson: Okay guys. Come in. *(Boys walk in)* Okay boys, why are you here? *(Boys start yelling all at once)* hey, hey, hey quiet down. One at a time. Tommy, you first.

Tommy: Well.....I was..I was.....

Andrew: Damien was picking on Tommy so I gave him what he deserved.

Damien: Yeah, if I saw you coming with that sucker punch I would have killed you.

Andrew: Oh yeah?

Damien: Yeah!

Mrs. Carson: Well boys, fighting on school property is an automatic suspension for the both of you.

Damien & Andrew: Huh?

Andrew: I was only trying to help Tommy!

Mrs. Carson: No matter how good your intentions were, you were still fighting. You both can come back two days from now.

Damien & Andrew: Yes ma'am.

Mrs. Carson: Tommy, I want your side of the story. What happened?

Tommy: Well, I was just minding my own business on the playground then Damien came up and started teasing me.

Mrs. Carson: What exactly was he doing?

Tommy: Well, I don't want to talk about it.

Mrs. Carson: Well, return to class and by the way, if you ever change your mind and want to talk about this, I'll be right here.

Tommy: Yes ma'am.

SCENE VI - *Tommy and Andrew talk in the hallway*

Tommy: Time to go home.

Andrew: Well, I've got a stupid detention along with my suspension.

Tommy: That's okay, but why did you get a detention?

Andrew: I forgot to do my homework.

Tommy: Okay, see you later!

Andrew: Bye!

SCENE VII - *Tommy is walking home and overhears Damien's parents through their window*

Laura: Stop, stop Ron.

Ron: You don't tell me when to stop! He deserves this beating for being suspended for the second time this week. He's a disgrace. I am ashamed to be your father. You were just a mistake!

Laura: Ron! The neighbours might hear! Stop!

Ron: Shut the window then!

Tommy: Holy cow! Poor Damien! (*Spends the rest of the day thinking about Damien*)

SCENE VIII

Tommy: (*Talking to his bear Snuggles*) Oh Snuggles, I don't know what to do! Damien might not want me to tell. I just don't know. If I do tell, he might get beaten again. Or they might take him away from his parents. What's the right thing to do?

Ms W: Tommy, time for supper!

Tommy: Coming!!!

SCENE IX - *The Wilkinson home. Morning*

Ms W: Tommy wake up.

Tommy: I'm already up.

Ms W: Come downstairs now. The bus will be here in fifteen minutes.

Tommy: (*enters kitchen. Mother has another breakfast carefully prepared*) Eggs, bacon and toast mmmm.

Ms W: Hurry up and eat Tommy.

Tommy: I'm hurrying, I'm hurrying!

Emily: Bye Tommy! (*Sticks out tongue*)

SCENE X - *At the bus stop. Tommy talks to Andrew*

Andrew: Hey Tommy! Tommy!

Tommy: Huh? What? Sorry.

Andrew: Something bothering you Tommy?

Tommy: Yes. I have something on my mind.

Andrew: Spit it out! What are friends for?

Tommy: I don't know what friends are for! But you'll probably find out after school.

(Bus pulls up and both get on)

SCENE XI

Tommy: I passed by your house and I sorta heard your dad.....

Damien: SHUT UP ! DON'T..... IF YOU EVER TELL ANYONE I WILL..... (*leaves in a fit of rage. Andrew walks in*)

Andrew: Hey Tommy! What did you just say to Damien? Man, is he ever mad! Come on, let's go.

Tommy: You go on. I got to go see the principal.

Andrew: OK

SCENE XII - *In the principal's office. Tommy decides to go and have a talk with Mrs. Carson about Damien and how he is getting abused at home.*

Mrs. Carson: Hello Tommy. How can I help you?

Mrs. E: Tommy, Andrew said you were here, is everything all right?

Tommy: Um, I don't know if I should be here, but I think maybe this is the right thing to do. I'm just going to say how I first found out about Damien's parents. I was walking past his house and the window was opened. I heard Damien's parents

fighting because his dad was beating him.

Mrs. E: Beating is abuse, Tommy. It's the school's job to report this to the police. This is a very serious situation. This explains why Damien is such a bully. Usually kids that bully have problems at home or at school.

Mrs. Carson: I want you to go back to class and let us handle this.

Tommy: Whatever is best for Damien, I guess.

SCENE XIII- *Next day after school. Tommy has lots of homework. Walking home alone.*

Tommy: I hate homework, it's so boring.....hey, what's that noise? It sounds like police sirens. At Damien's house! (*Runs to Damien's house where he finds Damien's dad under arrest*) What happened?

Damien: You said you wouldn't tell!!

Tommy: But, but...I had no choice!

Damien: You promised.....you promised.

Cop: You did the right thing son.

Tommy: I sure hope so.

(*Police drive away and Tommy returns home*)

SCENE XIV - kitchen

Tommy: Mom guess what? The cops took Damien away from his dad because he was beating him but they only found out because I ratted on him and.....

Mrs. W: Slow down.

Tommy: Okay, Damien had been beaten by his dad. I found out when I saw it through the window. I told the teachers about it and they said they would report it to the police.

Mrs. W: Poor Damien. The laws on child abuse are very strict these days, He may never be able to see his dad again. I don't know if he would want to see him again.

Tommy: Oh no, what have I done? Poor Damien.

Mrs. W: Tommy, you didn't do the wrong thing. If anything you did the right thing.

Tommy: Mom, could Damien stay with us? Just for a few days? I really feel I owe it to him. He probably would have preferred if I hadn't told at all.

Mrs. W: Well, if you hadn't told, his dad would still have been beating him. He can stay for a few days until a family can be found for him.

Tommy: Thanks Mom! I owe you one!

Mrs. W: Let's go see if we can find him and give him the good news.

SCENE XV - *women's shelter. Laura enters the shelter. She is nervous and embarrassed.*

Cynthia: Hello, can I help you?

Laura: I don't know if you can help.

Cynthia: I don't know if I can help either, but I sure would like to try. I am a good listener.

Laura: This is stupid. I don't want to be here. How could you help anyway?

Cynthia: I know how you are feeling but talking it out often helps.

Laura: I don't see how, but if you really want to listen.

Cynthia: Come into my office. No one will bother us there. So start....start at the beginning.

Laura; Well, I am here because my husband was arrested.

Cynthia: Has this ever happened before?

Laura: No..... (starts to cry)

Cynthia: It's okay.

Laura: Well, it seems to always happen when I am picking up for my son. My husband thinks I should be on his side.

Cynthia: Does this happen often?

Laura: Yes. The latest incident was because of my son, Damien's suspension at school. I know my son isn't very good at being nice to other kids, but his father doesn't have the right to do this to him, does he?

Cynthia: No. No one deserves to be beaten by anyone.

Laura: I'm afraid of what my husband might do when he comes home.

Cynthia: You don't have to be scared. You don't deserve this. We can keep you safe.

Laura: How can you help me?

Cynthia: We can help by giving you a room here for a while and protecting you from your husband.

Laura: Can my son stay here with me also?

Cynthia: How old is he?

Laura: He is 12 going on 13.

Cynthia: Oh I think we will have to make other arrangements for him.

Laura: Will I have to find a place for my son to stay?

Cynthia: I can arrange that for you.

Laura: Please give my son a safe place.

Cynthia: I will, trust me. Just remember you don't have to put up with this any longer.

Laura: Thank you so much.

Cynthia: You're welcome. Come with me and I will show you to your room. Then we will work on your son's arrangement.

Laura: How can I ever thank you?

Cynthia: You don't have to. I am here for you to trust me with everything. Don't worry. I'll leave you alone now. If you need me I'll be in my office.

SCENE XVI *Mrs. Wilkinson and Emily are in the kitchen. Tommy walks into the room*

Tommy: Mom, look who's home?

Emily: Oh no! Damien, do you like pancakes?