

Communication Expectations

By

St. Peter's School

Black Tickle

Emily: (Bob's daughter; Joys friend).....Jaiden Keefe
Nan: (Bob's mother; Emily and Matthew's grandmother)..... Victoria Keefe
Dad/Bob: (Emily and Matthew's father).....Aubrey Keefe
Joy: (Emily's friend).....Victor Dyson
Matthew: (Bob's son; Emily's brother).....Victor Dyson
Allister: (Boy Emily likes).....Victor Dyson

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Emily has a problem; she's interested in a boy but she can't date. Her grandmother and brother are starting to realize something is going on.

Scene 1

(In the living room, everyone is minding their own business. Nan is knitting in the corner, and Emily is being teased by her older brother Matthew.)

(Left side of the stage lights on and right side of stage lights off)

Matthew: I heard your best friend got herself a boyfriend. Why don't you have one yet?
(Laughing) Let me guess, you can't get one!

Emily: No, Matthew, Dad wouldn't let me have a boyfriend!

(Dad walks in)

Dad: What did I hear you saying?

Nan: Matthew here says Emily got herself a date.

Dad: *(Getting angry)* What!?! What did your mother and I tell you? You can't date until you are 16!

Emily: *(Complaining)* But Dad, I'm thirteen! Everyone in school has one, I'm the odd one out!

Dad: Now Emily, you know what boys are like! You can't trust them!

Emily: But Dad, the boys at school are my friends and are very kind to me! Plus, my best friend Joy wants me to date someone she knows.

Matthew: Oh, do you mean Joy Brown? She's very 'joyful'!

Nan: Her mother was like that too, must run in the family. She made a lot of boys joyful, I remember.

Dad: How much time do you *really* spend with Joy? Why don't Joy come over here to study, huh?

(Awkward silence)

Matthew: *(Awkwardly)* Speaking of studying, I'm going to go upstairs to start my own studying...

Emily: *(Upset)* Good, you caused enough trouble for me as it is.

(Matthew leaves)

Dad: Emily, why don't you invite this dear little Joy over for a movie on Friday night? I really want to meet her.

Emily: (*Stuttering*) O-okay Dad, I'll invite her over. B-but p-please don't embarrass me! You know I'm a good girl, Dad, you can trust me!

Dad: Fine.

(*Dad and Emily both leave the room*)

Nan: (*Speaking to herself*) Yes Emily, I remember your father telling me the same thing when he was your age. And I was stupid enough to believe him too.

Emily: I'll go phone Joy now ...

(*Emily exits to bedroom*)

Dad: Hey Mom, quiet! Emily will hear you and I was a pretty good kid!

Nan: Bob, you better watch yourself with little miss Em, little miss highy tighty, do nothing wrong! I can remember you running around with those Tuckers girls' 'till all hours in the night!

Dad: Times were different then, we were only having fun!

Nan: Yeah, only having fun. You had a lot of fun when your father had to come and get you at 11:00 when you were supposed to be home at 9:30 (*raising voice*).

Dad: Mom, MOM! Your blood pressure I need to get your pills.

Scene 2

(Emily is whispering to Joy on the phone.)

Emily: So Joy, we were thinking that Friday night would be a good night for pizza and a movie.
(Pause)

Emily: We'd have pizza delight, popcorn, and stuff... *(Pause)*

(Dad walks in and leaves)

Emily: And Joy, were you talking to A-l-l-i-s-t-e-r at the end of the math class? *(Pause)*

Emily: Did he mention my name? *(Pause)*

Lighting Directions: Spotlight on Nan on the Right side of the stage

(Nan slowly picks up the phone in Emily's bedroom)

Emily: What did he say about me? *(Pause)*

Emily: Is he going to the ranger outing tomorrow?

(Father walks in the room where Emily is talking on the phone with a basket of clothes)

Emily: *(Whispering to Joy)* Have you ever noticed how blue his eyes are? Or how HANDSOME he looks in his uniform?

Emily: JOY! JOY! Are you breathing kind of loud! Is you little sister Lucy listening in on us?

(Nan gently places the phone back on the hook)

Emily: What? What? ... No, I thought someone was listening in on the phone! I better go, I'll see you tomorrow.

Nan: That little liar! What did Bob say "he could trust her?" I'll trust her as far as I could throw her. Little sleeven slink! Bet you he's one of those Tuckers! Wait till I go tell Bob.

(Nan leaves the stage)

Scene 3

(Nan and Dad are speaking in the living room while Joy and Emily are talking in Emily's room.)

Dad: That supper was delicious.

Nan: Delicious?! You call that delicious? It used to be delicious when you put salt in your food.

Dad: You know what the doctor said about you and salt.

Nan: Doctor smocter! All that doctor says is that you're too this or too that! If you're a smoker, they tell you to stop! If you're fat, they tell you to lose weight!

Dad: Nan, Nan... what do you think of young Joy?

Emily: That was some movie! Maybe having a movie night wasn't such a bad idea after all.

Joy: Yeah, but don't have your father pick the next movie, okay? I felt like I would die half way through.

Emily: *(Sounding hurt)* I didn't think it was all that bad, I rather liked it myself.

Joy: Yeah, well, I saw Allister smiling at you at the Ranger outing.

Emily: Yeah, too bad I had to wear my uniform and not my new jeans. They fit me so well.

Joy: Yeah *(Rolls eyes)* so well.

Nan: What did Matthew call her? "Joyful Joy."

Dad: Well, she seemed nice, Nan.

Nan: I remember her grandmother well enough, and they all thought she was nice too. But look at how that crowd turned out.

Dad: They didn't turn out *that* bad, now.

Nan: Isn't Theresa Brown young Joy's mother?

Dad: Yeah, I think so.

Nan: Well, you never knew what she would do.

Joy: Aren't you getting bored, sitting around here all night, Emily?

Emily: What else are we gonna do then?

Joy: I know something much more fun! Let's go to Tim Horton's and hang out for a bit!

Emily: I'm not allowed to go out this late at night. I'll never be able to make it out the door.

Joy: Allister's gonna be there!

Emily: I'd like to, Joy, but I still can't get out the door.

Joy: (*Pointing to the window*) Live a little! Take a chance! Roll up your jeans, crawl out the window, climb down the tree and then way to go! We'll be there and back and won't be gone long enough to get caught!

Emily: (*Nervous*) O-okay then.

(*The girls go to the window*)

Dad: You gotta trust the kids. Emily is a good girl. Emily always tells me *everything*!

Nan: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Likely story. I say she tells you all, alright! Well then, I got to the bathroom.

Dad: Well where are you going, the bathroom is that way!

Nan: I going to get my book!

(*Nan walks towards bedroom*)

(*The girls are in the window and Emily is stuck*)

Emily: I'm stuck! Help Joy, I'm scared of heights!

Joy: Listen! Just put one foot in front of the other and climb down! It's not rocket science, Emily!

Nan: (*Screaming*) CLIMB DOWN WHERE!?

Emily: Oh Nan, oh no, oh Nan! Don't tell Dad, please!

(*All lights turn off*)

Music: Girls Just Wanna Have Fun – Cyndi Lauper

Scene 4

(Emily is freed from the window, and Emily are sitting on the couch in the living room, being lectured by Grandma.)

(Left side of the stage lights on and right side of stage lights off)

Nan: *(angry)* Now what stunt are you trying to pull, little miss do-nothing-wrong!? I warned your father that you'll do something like this with that crowd you've been hanging around!

(Sound: Car horn)

Dad: *(Walking in)* What in the world is going on here? And what who was that honking their horn in the driveway?

Nan: That was Joy's mother, I called her to come pick her up. Now you, tell your father what you and Miss Joyful was up to!

(Emily remains silent, and Grandma rants on)

Nan: I found Emily and Joy making their way out the window! Good thing that Emily was crumpy enough to get stuck long enough that I could catch them!

Dad: *(Noticing Emily's ripped pants)* Don't tell me that you have ripped those 80 dollar jeans already! You kicked up a storm over those stupid pants and now look at them! You won't be getting another pair!

Nan: You shouldn't go bawling about a pair of old jeans, bawl about Emily sneaking off to who-knows-where with Joy! Now what about Matthew? Is he still up in his room or in North Mart stuffing his face with doughnuts?

Dad: I'm tired of fighting. Let's sleep on this whole mess, and tomorrow we'll look at this with a fresh face. Goodnight.

(Dad and Grandma leave set)

Emily: *(Sitting down and sighing with relief)* All of this happened just because I wanted Allister to see me in these jeans...

(Knock on the door)

(Emily opens the door and Allister is there)

Emily: *(Shocked)* Oh God, Allister! *(Hurries to try to hide the rip in her pants)*

Allister: Joy called me to meet you guys at Tim's and I waited for at least an hour! I came to check on you and I heard a lot of yelling. Are you okay?

Emily: Yeah, I'm fine, I just tried to climb out of a window, that's all.

Allister: Uh, I actually wanted to ask you something important. W-would you like to go out on a date next Friday?

(All lights turn off)

(Music: Your Man – Josh Turner)