

JASON & TYRONE

TYRONE. Wake up.

JASON. Huh. Wha.

TYRONE. You pull some shit like that again. I'll cut off your balls.

JASON. Tyrone... how'd you get...

TYRONE. Better. How'd I get fixed. I didn't whine and ask questions. I just got that shit done.

JASON. I'm glad you're feeling better.

TYRONE. You tore my goddamn head in two.

JASON. You called me out in front of Jessica.

TYRONE. I was trying to help.

JASON. That's what you call helping.

TYRONE. We had her man. With the bullshit. With the shtick.

JASON. Yes. Yes we did. Then you had to go off with the nasty...

TYRONE. Women love that shit.

JASON. No they...

TYRONE. They do.

JASON. Shut up.

TYRONE. How do you think Timothy gets all the girls.

JASON. He's better looking.

TYRONE. Yeah... yeah that helps but just watch him. Watch him.

JASON. He's not very nice.

TYRONE. No he's not. He's not very nice and he's already had your precious Jessica.

JASON. No he hasn't...

TYRONE. You sure?

JASON. I'll rip you in half again.

TYRONE. You try to so much as take me off your hand, next time you wake up it'll be with me stapled to your arm.

JASON. You wouldn't.

TYRONE. I 100 per-fucking-cent would.

JASON & MARGERY

MARGERY. What do you want for dinner? ... Chick-fil-A? ... You want some nuggets. Some chicken nuggets?

(Jason doesn't answer)

MARGERY. You hungry? You really... we could go to Grandy's. They got that chicken fried steak you like.

JASON. Momma. I don't wanna do puppets no more.

MARGERY. TCBY.

JASON. Momma did you hear me.

MARGERY. Get you a parfait.

JASON. I cain't. I cain't do it no more.

MARGERY. We'll get you a parfait. Parfait means "perfect" in French.

JASON. Momma...

MARGERY. You can keep on repeating yourself, young man. I'm gonna keep ignoring you.

JASON. Why, Momma.

MARGERY. You know what them puppets mean to your momma.

JASON. I do.

MARGERY. You know Momma's having a rough time right now.

JASON. I do.

MARGERY. You know Momma needs your help.

JASON. I know but...

MARGERY. But what. What is more important than your momma's love?

JASON. I think it's doing bad things to me.

MARGERY. What are you talking about.

JASON. Just please Momma. Lemme stop and don't think it means nothing.

MARGERY. Jason we gotta perform for the church next Sunday. I was gonna tell you over chicken nuggets but there it is. We gonna have to give 'em a show next week and I need you to go up there and show 'em. You and ole Tyrone.

JASON & JESSICA

JESSICA. You don't take that thing off much do you.

JASON. I do. I do all the time. I spend long periods of time with it off. Like in the bath. Or when swimming. Or...

JESSICA. Only when dealing with water.

JASON. What?

JESSICA. What, is he some kind of hydrophobe?

JASON. Who Tyrone?

JESSICA. Is that his name.

JASON. Ummm. Yeah.

JESSICA. And he's afraid of water.

JASON. I know what hydrophobe means.

JESSICA. I didn't think you didn't.

JASON. He just takes a really long time to dry. You take him into the pool once and there goes your Saturday night, alone in the bathroom with the hairdryer.

(She giggles again. He gets red again.)

JESSICA. Aw you're embarrassed.

JASON. I'm not embarrassed.

JESSICA. You don't have to be embarrassed.

JASON. Good I'm not.

JESSICA. I think it's sweet how much you love your puppet.

JASON. I don't love my puppet.

JESSICA. Well how much you like you puppet.

JASON. I don't like my puppet.

JESSICA. How much you need your puppet. (*He gets up to go*) Hey. Hey don't leave.

JASON. Stop making fun of me.

JESSICA. I'm not.

JASON. I'm...

JESSICA. Really I'm not. I saw The Lion King. I think it's cool.

PASTOR GREG & MARGERY

PASTOR GREG. How was puppet practice today?

MARGERY. I was... I am daily being taught lessons of patience and forgiveness.

PASTOR GREG. Thatta girl. When can we expect the debut of your Christcateers?

MARGERY. I don't know, Pastor Greg.

PASTOR GREG. Will giving you a deadline help.

MARGERY. I don't think so.

PASTOR GREG. Well I do. Service, next Sunday yer on the bill and if you don't have a presentation it'll be up to you to explain it.

MARGERY. But...

PASTOR GREG. Ah ah ah, no buts. The church has been more than generous with space and resources...

MARGERY. Fine. I'll see what I can do.

PASTOR GREG. Thatta girl. ... There's also gonna be a potluck after.

MARGERY. Oh. Huh.

PASTOR GREG. Will you be there.

MARGERY. I wasn't plannin' on...

PASTOR GREG. I would sure like it if you came.

MARGERY. Oh Pastor Greg.

PASTOR GREG. I know you don't get on well with the Ladies Auxiliary, but I think these puppets are gonna be a big hit.

MARGERY. Oh Pastor Greg.

PASTOR GREG. And I promise I will not leave your side.

MARGERY. Oh Pastor Greg.

PASTOR GREG. Try me you'll like me. Least gimme a "we'll see"?

MARGERY. It hasn't been but six months.

PASTOR GREG. Just a "we'll see".

MARGERY. (*sighs*) We'll see.

PASTOR GREG. Great. I'll see you there. Have a blessed day.

MARGERY. Night pastor.

TIMOTHY & MARGERY

TIMOTHY. Why are you sad?

MARGERY. My husband died.

TIMOTHY. Why?

MARGERY. He... he... he...

TIMOTHY. I mean, I know he had a heart attack.

MARGERY. Then why did you ask?

TIMOTHY. 'Cause I want you to know I care.

MARGERY. Then why won't you leave me alone.

TIMOTHY. 'Cause I love you and I don't know what to do about it.

MARGERY. Excuse me.

TIMOTHY. Should I say it again.

MARGERY. No Timothy. You shouldn't. You shouldn't ever say that again.

TIMOTHY. Why not.

MARGERY. Because... because...

TIMOTHY. Because you feel it too?

MARGERY. No. No Timothy. No.

TIMOTHY. I... I love our little talks.

MARGERY. Little ta... I am disciplining you.

TIMOTHY. I thought this was our thing.

MARGERY. Do what now?

TIMOTHY. You remember when we was alone that one time Jason was sick and Jessica's family was in Florida and we had a great talk and I made you laugh and you touched my arm and then the room got hot and I don't know much but I know when I'm hard...

MARGERY. (calling offstage) Jason.

TIMOTHY. And I'm rocking a halvesie right now.

MARGERY. What you felt wasn't what I felt.

TIMOTHY. Ok. Then don't kiss me.

MARGERY. Fine. (*he steps forward*) Timothy.