

Showdown with God – A Drama by Carrie Bedient

Characters:

Carrie: Main character – a teenager

Liz: Main character's cousin – also a teenager

(Note: either character can be female or male)

Set: The stage is empty except for one chair and a portable phone in the center. As drama opens, Carrie is sitting on the chair comfortably, talking on the phone.

Carrie (*cheerful*): I can't believe you dyed your hair again. One of these days you'll come to school looking like Rainbow Bright. This is what, the second time this week? No wonder your parents are mad. Hey, at least when I do something I only have one parental unit to fight. (*pause*) No, we do fight sometimes. (*grin*) Usually it's over whether to get Wheaties or Lucky Charms, but every once in a while we do argue. We get along pretty well, though. Dad's a cool old guy. (*doorbell rings*) Awe, shoot, there goes the doorbell, I gotta go. (*glances at watch*) Dang, we've been talking for three hours! (*doorbell rings again*) I really have to get the door, I'll talk to you tomorrow, 'kay? Bye. (*opens imaginary front door. Liz is standing there looking very serious and slightly nervous*) Hey Liz, what's up? (*quickly sees something's wrong*) Are you alright? You look like you saw a ghost!

Liz: No, no I'm fine.

Carrie: (*alarmed*) Is something wrong with Aunt Jan or Uncle Tony?

Liz: No, they're okay. Carrie, sit down.

Carrie: Why?

Liz: Just sit.

Carrie: (*sits, worried now*) What's going on?

Liz: (*takes a deep breath*) I got a call from the police about an hour ago. They've been trying to call you all afternoon, but the line was busy, so they called our house. No one else was home, so they told me.

Carrie: (*anxiously*) Told you what?

Liz: I'm getting there ...

Carrie: What happened. Is it about Dad?

Liz: I don't know how to tell you this ...

Carrie: Is he okay? Just tell me!

Liz: Carrie, your dad was in an accident on Highway 202 earlier today. I don't know exactly what happened, but his truck flipped.

Carrie: Are you sure it was him?

Liz: (*nods*) They found his wallet. It had his driver's license and pictures of you two in it.

Carrie: (*stands up*) It's not true. You're lying.

Liz: Carrie ...

Carrie: I just saw him this morning, he's fine.

Liz: (*takes her hand*) Carrie, your dad is dead.

Carrie: (*verging on hysteria*) No, no, no. (*an anguished cry*) Daddy!

Liz: Carrie, sit down.

Carrie: (*ignores Liz, now in her own world*) My dad is gone.

Liz: (*trying to get Carrie's attention*) Carrie, calm down.

Carrie: What am I gonna do without him?

Liz: Get a hold of yourself.

Carrie: He's all I have and he's not here anymore.

Liz: Carrie ...

Carrie: (*like a little girl*) I want my daddy!

Liz: (*grabs Carrie by the arms and makes her look up*) Snap out of it! This is God's will. It must have been your father's time to go. You have to let go and accept the fact that he's gone.

Carrie: (*shakes loose*): If God takes my dad when he's young and healthy I don't want anything to do with God!

Liz: You don't mean that.

Carrie: Yes, I do. God took my dad!

Liz: It was God's will.

Carrie: Easy for you to say. You still have both your parents. God still likes you!

Liz: (*struggling to stay patient*) God knows what's best. God took your dad for a reason.

Carrie: (*bitter*) What, to make me suffer?

Liz: It all works for God's purpose ...

Carrie: (*cuts her off*) I don't want to know a God who takes my dad!

Liz: (*mad at Carrie for denying God*) It's all part of God's plan. We can't judge that!

Carrie: I don't believe it.

Liz: God is the ultimate power. God took your dad for a reason.

Carrie: You don't know what it's like. (*starting to totally lose control*) Leave me alone.

Liz: Carrie, I don't think you should be alone right now.

Carrie: Leave me alone!

Liz: I don't want to leave you.

Carrie: Please, please, just go. I'll call you later, just leave me alone.

Liz: (*pause*) Okay, I'll go. But when my mom gets home in a few hours I'm sure

Carrie: (*dazed*) Fine, just leave.

Liz: Okay (*as she leaves*) but remember, God loves you. (*exits*)

Carrie: God ... Oh please God let it all be a mistake, I just want him back, I'll never lie or cheat again, just make him be okay, I don't want my daddy dead. (*pause*) He's dead, my father's dead. What am I going to do without him, God? (*angry*) Why did you take him? You're supposed to be loving and gracious and good and you took my dad from me! What'd we ever do to you? And it's not just

us either. You let bad things happen everywhere. Wars and murders and unfairness ... Why haven't you stopped that from happening, huh? You're not a loving God. Your world is horrible all the time. I don't want to believe in You or be a part of Your horrible world! You took my dad! Screw you, God! (*less violently, but with conviction*) Screw you. (*collapses into chair, sobbing*)