

SCHOOL DAYS –Vol. 1

A Collection Of Dialogues For Young Actors

by
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Homework Worries

CHARACTERS

ALEX, CHRIS, JESSIE, and TERRY

SETTING: Standing at the bus stop in the morning before school

ALEX: I'm beat. I didn't go to sleep last night until 1:00. I was talking on the phone.

CHRIS: You mean you didn't go to sleep until this *morning*. One o'clock is in the morning, not night.

JESSIE: Okay, smarty-pants. We all know what Alex meant.

TERRY: So who were you talking to on the phone so late?

ALEX: My secret admirer. And I think I'll let the identity of that person remain a secret.

JESSIE: Oh, I hate it when you do that. Why did you tell us you were talking on the phone so late if you weren't going to tell us WHO you were talking to?

TERRY: You're pulling our leg. Besides, I really don't care who you were talking to.

CHRIS: A secret admirer? I doubt if *you* have a secret admirer. No one is *that* desperate!

ALEX: Oh, thanks a lot! What a friend you are!

CHRIS: Hey, the truth hurts! Just kidding . . . just kidding.

TERRY: My mom knows when I'm talking on the phone late. She keeps picking up the phone like she wants to use it, but I know she's checking to see if I'm on.

JESSIE: My little bratty sister picks up the phone constantly. If I don't get my own cell phone soon, I'm going to go crazy.

ALEX: You don't have your cell phone? Too bad. I've had mine for about six months.

JESSIE: Don't rub it in. I'm aware that you have your own cell. But that's because your dad has an office in your home and he has to be able to get his business calls on your land line.

ALEX: It's not just that. My mom wants to know where I am all the time. It's like she talks me on my cell phone.

CHRIS: My dad says, if I want a cell phone, I have to pay for it myself. And if I get my own computer, he's going to make me pay for half of it.

TERRY: Speaking of the computer, did you guys have to write a paper last night for Social Studies?

JESSIE: Yes, I did. I went on the Internet to do the research on World War II and then wrote that one page paper on what I learned.

CHRIS: Oh, my gosh! I forgot to do that!

ALEX: You didn't do the Social Studies paper? It's only been assigned for two weeks!

TERRY: What are you going to do? That paper is going to count like a test grade.

JESSIE: Dude, you are in trouble. Mrs. Burton won't take "I forgot to do it" for an excuse!

CHRIS: I'm dead meat! I can't believe I forgot to get it done.

JESSIE: What were you doing last night? Watching TV all night?

Party Paranoia

CHARACTERS

ALLISON, BEN, SAM, and SHERRY

SETTING: On the bus riding to school.

ALLISON: Did you guys hear about the party at Dana's house Saturday night?

SAM: Hear about it? My brother was at the party!

SHERRY: He was there? What did he say about it?

BEN: I didn't hear a thing about a party at Dana's house. Why wasn't I invited?

ALLISON: No one was invited. . . mainly because there wasn't supposed to be a party. Dana's parents were out-of-town and her older sister told three friends to come over to watch a video. Half the high school ended up at their house!

BEN: For real? Man, that sounds like a great time!

SHERRY: Sam, what did your brother say about the party? Was it a good time?

SAM: It got out of control, my brother told me. More and more people started coming in the front door. Dana and her sister started freaking out. They were afraid people would trash the place.

SHERRY: Well, did they?

SAM: My brother said some of the neighbors called the police because of all the cars in the street. Some of the high school kids even had beer.

BEN: For real? You mean the cops showed up at the party? Did they arrest anybody?

SAM: The high school guys with the beer got rid of it when they saw the police car down the street. They would have gotten arrested since they were under age.

ALLISON: Dana was so upset about her parents finding out when they got home. She was afraid that she and her sister would be grounded for the rest of their lives.

SHERRY: I'm sure the neighbors will give her parents all the dirty details . . . especially if they called the police.

BEN: Oh, man! Dana WILL be grounded for the rest of her life!

ALLISON: I think it's lousy that the teenagers who crashed her house wouldn't leave when Dana and her sister asked them to. I mean, they weren't invited to come over.

SAM: Come on, everybody is looking for a place to party. And you know how fast the word gets out about a house with no parents there.

BEN: That will never happen to me. Every time my parents go out of town, my grandmother comes over to spend the night. And my grandmother is a retired school principal! No way would a party happen with her around!

SHERRY: Your grandmother was a principal? Wow, that's heavy!

BEN: Yeah, she has all kinds of stories about catching kids doing stuff. She has radar ears and eyes. She always knows when you're up to something. We call her " Gestapo Granny."

ALLISON: "Gestapo?" What's "Gestapo?"

BEN: It was the secret police in Nazi Germany during World War II. They were tough.

SAM: Allison, did Dana's parents find out about the party?

ALLISON: Yeah. Dana and her sister decided to tell them about it as soon as they got home on Sunday. They figured it would be better if the story came from them instead of from the neighbors.

SHERRY: Did her parents freak out or were they cool about it?

Popular Personality

CHARACTERS

AMY, SARAH, and KATIE

SETTING: Riding the bus to school

SARAH: I had the biggest fight this morning with my brother. He won't come out of the bathroom when I tell him I'm running late. He does it just to annoy me.

AMY: My sister is like that. It must be heaven to have your own bathroom.

KATIE: What about when we go to college someday? We'll have to share a bathroom with at least three people.

AMY: That's going to be tough. I hope I like my college roommate. You can't always choose who you room with.

KATIE: My mother is still in touch with her college roommate. They get together once a year. They roomed together for all four years.

SARAH: Well, my older sister couldn't get along with hers. She moved to another dormitory after three months.

KATIE: I'll be ready for any roommate. I've had to share a room with my sister for five years. I figure I can handle anybody at this point.

SARAH: Someday I'm going to have a house with five bedrooms and each bedroom will have its very own bathroom.

AMY: Well, you better plan on being a brain surgeon if you want to have a house that big.

SARAH: I don't think I'd make it through medical school. You know how I struggle in science.

KATIE: Did I tell you guys that Mrs. Hatcher moved me to another seat in Science class? Guess who I sit next to now? The hottest guy in the class.

AMY: Are you kidding? You sit next to Justin Kelly?

KATIE: Justin Kelly? He's not the hottest guy in that class! I'm talking about David Miller.

AMY: David Miller? You think he's hot?

SARAH: Oh, my gosh! Of course David Miller is hot! He's gorgeous!

AMY: I'm sorry, but David Miller isn't close to being in the Justin Kelly category. Justin Kelly is incredible.

SARAH: He doesn't hold a candle to David Miller. And the best thing about David Miller is he is shy and adorable. Justin Kelly knows he's hot.

KATIE: You got that right. Justin walks around like he is God's gift to women. David probably knows he's good-looking, but he doesn't act like it.

SARAH: You know, I get so tired of having to look a certain way to be popular. If you have blond hair, blue eyes, and are skinny, you are automatically popular.

AMY: I have curly brown hair, brown eyes, and have a few extra pounds on me, so I don't fit the bill.

KATIE: My mother told me that looks have been a big deal in school forever-- even when she was a teenager. But she said that when you become an adult, people start judging you for your personality.

AMY: Then someday, the three of us are going to be the most popular. We've got great personalities.

KATIE: Think about Ellen smith. She's not the most beautiful girl in school, but she's popular. It's because of her personality.

SARAH: She's hilarious. She has a great sense of humor and is always making people laugh.

KATIE: Ellen is totally cool. I love to sitting next to her in Math class. She even gets old Mr. Johnson to laugh during class.

Family Relations

CHARACTERS

ERICA, BETH and MARY

SETTING: Sitting in the library after school

ERICA: This was a crummy day. I got a C- on my Social Studies test. I studied for it, too!

BETH: You obviously didn't study for it hard enough.

MARY: Misery loves company. I didn't do well on it either. I made a C.

BETH: I'm not trying to brag, but I think Mr. Elton's tests are easy. He tells you exactly what to study and that's what he gives you on the test.

ERICA: The problem is that Mary and I don't have Mr. Elton. We have Mrs. Kirby. Her tests are impossible!

MARY: It's true Beth. Everybody knows that Mrs. Kirby is much harder than Mr. Elton. It's common knowledge.

BETH: Too bad you didn't get put into Mr. Elton's class. You'd be making A's like me!

ERICA: I think I'll forget to tell Mom about this test grade. She wasn't happy when I had a C average on my interim report card. I keep telling her how hard it is, but she nags me anyway.

MARY: You know what my problem is? All my teachers for the past three years taught my brother and you know how smart he is. He makes A's in every subject and the teachers expect me to be the "whiz kid" that he is.

BETH: Would you rather be labeled "the troublemaker's sister" like I am? My brother was always talking, passing notes, and distracting his teachers. You know what most of my teachers ask me the first day of class? They say, "Are you going to be as challenging as your brother was when he was in my classroom?"

ERICA: That's the politically correct way for teachers to ask, "Are you going to be as big a pain as your brother was?" I'm the oldest in my family, so I guess I'm setting the standard for my little sister. Some day she'll have to live up to my reputation.

BETH: And what kind of reputation do you have?

ERICA: I don't know. I think my teachers would say I'm cooperative and agreeable.

MARY: I have to admit I am proud of my brother. I like that my teachers are happy to have me in their class and say nice things about my brother. I'll never be as smart as he is, but at least my parents don't compare us.

BETH: My parents are always putting pressure on me to do better in school than my brother. They got so tired of parent – teacher conferences discussing his behavior.

ERICA: My little sister and I got into a huge fight last night and she said, "I can't wait till you go to college and get out of this house forever!" An hour later, she came into my room and started crying when we talked about me going away some day. What can I say? The kid adores me.

BETH: I wish I had a sister. My brother and I have nothing in common. Now that he is driving, I never see him. He started working at Pizza Hut last month.

MARY: You may not be close now, but you might be in the future. Don't give up on him yet.

ERICA: My dad has a younger sister and they call each other at least once a month. She lives in another state, but they make an effort to stay in touch.

Suicide

CHARACTERS

KAREN, MATT, TED, and ANNA

SETTING: In the library doing research for a report

KAREN: I can't concentrate on this research. I can't think of anything but Brad.

TED: I am so bummed out. I haven't heard one word that my teachers have said in class today.

MATT: I played basketball with him two days ago after school. He was doing fine. I didn't notice anything unusual about him.

ANNA: That's the problem. He acted like he was doing okay, but inside he was really dying. And none of us noticed.

MATT: Well, how could we notice? He didn't let anyone know what was really going on.

KAREN: Ted, you live down the street from Brad. Didn't you talk to him a lot on the bus?

TED: Yeah, but he acted okay. He didn't say he was depressed or thinking about killing himself. We always talked about sports.

ANNA: He loved the Detroit Pistons. He was always talking about them.

MATT: And he loved the Red Skins. That was his favorite football team.

KAREN: Remember how he had on that cool Michael Jordan t-shirt last week? I'd never seen such a cool t-shirt and I told him that. He smiled when I told him how much I liked it.

MATT: I was in my room last night listening to CDs. My mom knocked on my door and said she had to tell me some really bad news. Her face looked terrible. She was fighting back tears when she told me.

ANNA: Yeah, isn't your mom good friends with Brad's mother?

MATT: They went to high school together. They've known each other for years.

TED: My dad told me. I heard the phone ring when I was in the bathroom last night. He came upstairs and we sat in my room for an hour talking about it. We were both in shock.

KAREN: I've never known anyone our age to die before. It seems unreal. . . like a dream.

ANNA: What was Brad depressed about? What was going on with him?

MATT: Brad's mother told my mom that he had been fighting depression for a couple of years. He was getting better, she thought. He was feeling bad about his whole life and even though his mother was trying to help him, I guess she couldn't be there for him all the time.

KAREN: His mother must feel terrible. I hope she doesn't feel like she failed him.

ANNA: She probably will feel that way for a while. How sad for her.

TED: Where is Brad's father? Does he live close by?

MATT: No. He lives ten hours away. I think Brad only saw him during the summer.

ANNA: I bet he was depressed because of his parent's divorce and because he couldn't have a real relationship with his dad since he lives so far away.

TED: My dad and mom separated for a few months last year. When Dad moved out of the house, I felt like I wanted to die. I was so scared that they were going to get a divorce. Thank God they worked it out.

KAREN: Suicide is a weird thing. People want to say that you have to be really screwed up to take your own life, but Brad wasn't screwed up. He was a cool guy.

ANNA: It hurts me to think that somebody could have helped Brad get through this depression. If he could have talked to a doctor or gotten some kind of medicine. . .

MATT: Look, it's really hard to tell people how bad you're feeling. One time I was really down in the dumps and I couldn't seem to shake it. But the worst thing was that I didn't know how to tell anyone. I couldn't get myself to ask for help.

Juvenile Delinquent

CHARACTERS

JIM and TONY

SETTING: Riding the bus home from school

JIM: Mike was back in school today. I was surprised to see him.

TONY: He's been messing up so much lately that I thought his parents would ship him off to military school.

JIM: This is his last chance. If he messes up one more time, he'll be out.

TONY: How many times has he been suspended this year? Wasn't the last time a ten day out-of-school suspension?

JIM: Yeah, that's why he better be careful from here on out. The next time means he's out for good.

TONY: Mike's always had a hard time in school. He can't just settle down and get through it. I wonder why.

JIM: I don't know, but if I had the problems he has, my parents would run out of patience. I know they would send me off.

TONY: Two weeks ago Mike got caught shoplifting which means he's in trouble with the law. When he told me about it, he acted like he was cool.

JIM: I've known Mike since second grade. We used to be on the same little league team. He was going okay back then.

TONY: He started getting in trouble in fifth grade. It was like he was trying to impress people by doing stuff that he knew was wrong.

JIM: I'll never forget the way he would talk back to Mrs. Johnson in the sixth grade. She had to send him to the office every other day.

TONY: Yeah. Why did he pick Mrs. Johnson to talk back to? She is one of the coolest teachers around.

JIM: It's almost like Mike is self-destructive. Like he knows right from wrong, but he can't make himself straighten up.

TONY: I've never seen Mr. Blankenship get so angry as he did last week when Mike acted up in Phys. ED. Mr. Blankenship said, "Mike, I've had all I'm going to take from you. You need to learn some respect and discipline." Then he sent Mike to the office.

JIM: I bet they have a "Mike chair" in the office. He probably has his own personal seat.

TONY: I wouldn't want to go into Mrs. James' office. She's a nice lady when you see her in the hall, but I bet she can crack the whip hard when you get an office referral.

JIM: I wouldn't want to be a school principal. I bet they get so tired of dealing with discipline problems.

TONY: With somebody like Mike, they see a guy who has the ability to do the school work and could do well. He just keeps making the wrong choices over and over.

JIM: Look at a guy like Matthew Carson. He has that learning disability where he gets his numbers and letters all jumbled in his head. He has to work twice as hard as we do in school and yet he makes good grades. He has a really good attitude.

Benchwarmers

CHARACTERS

LIZ and EMILY

SETTING: Riding the bus home from school

LIZ: Tryouts for basketball start next Monday. Are you ready?

EMILY: Well, you know I was thinking about not trying out. But my dad wants me to do it. He's been working with me on my foul shots and lay-ups.

LIZ: I'll struggle through the whole week like I did last year. But we both made it, so we have a chance.

EMILY: Yeah, but I didn't play AAU this spring and summer and most of the other girls did.

LIZ: I played on Coach O'Brien's AAU team and sat on the bench all season. I didn't gain any confidence at all.

EMILY: I just wish my dad would back off. He thinks I can play as well as my sister and he keeps pushing and pushing.

LIZ: Your sister was so good. She could shoot three pointers like a WNBA superstar.

EMILY: Don't remind me. I'm not the jock that she is. She's good at every sport. It's a real pain having to live up to that.

LIZ: You don't have to live up to your sister's reputation. Besides, you are a good athlete. You dribble better than I do and you're much faster on the court than I am. You beat me every time.

EMILY: We did have a good time last year on the team. I like all the girls. Sue gets a little annoying, but she can't help it.

LIZ: She was a basket case during some of those games. Remember how she started crying on the bench after missing those foul shots against the Bailey Bridge team?

EMILY: She sure puts a lot of pressure on herself. Coach Horton told her once to ease up.

LIZ: Coach Horton likes you and me. She says we have good attitudes. That's gotta' count for something, don't you think?

EMILY: Yeah, like Takia Jefferson. She won the Coach's Award last year because of her attitude. She wasn't a great player, but she had a ton of team spirit and was a hard worker.

LIZ: I'm not going to do anything with basketball in the future, but being on the team has taught me a lot. You know, how to get along with people, how to push yourself to get better, stuff like that.

EMILY: Sometimes it's hard to sit the bench and watch other girls get all the glory.

LIZ: Yeah, I've had to work on my jealousy problem. I guess that's been good for me, too.

EMILY: Too bad the benchwarmers don't get more recognition. After all, we're the ones who go to all the practices, cheer the good players through the games, and get yelled at by the coach when we didn't make the mistakes.

LIZ: There ought to be "the benchwarmer's award" given at the end of the season. You and I could compete for that.

EMILY: During the season, I sometimes have these dreams where I am this incredibly awesome basketball player. I hit twelve three-pointers during the game, make all my foul shots, and do these phenomenal reverse lay-ups. The crowd goes wild.

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