TAFFY AND DAISY GO TO K-MART

by Lori B. Crawford

Preacher's Kid Productions loribethcrawford@yahoo.com

FADE IN:

INT. TAFFY'S OFFICE - NIGHT

TAFFY SINCLAIR (24), frumpy in an ill fitting suit and pumps, enters data from a small stack of paper. Her cubicle is beyond tidy.

MELODY KANE (48), sharply dressed, strides over to Taffy's cubicle.

MELODY

And you're still here.

TAFFY

I have a few more reqs to enter.

MELODY

Everyone else has gone home.

Taffy pauses to look at her.

TAFFY

But you're still here.

MELODY

No. I was driving by and saw that the lights were still on. Go home, Taffy. Have a life. The reqs will be here for you on Monday.

TAFFY

I'd thought I'd come in for an hour or so on Sunday. I should file before the next batch.

MELODY

You do know that I'm paying you on a salary, right? Not by the hour.

TAFFY

It's more than generous. I just want to earn my keep.

Melody crosses her arm and levels a stern look on Taffy.

MELODY

You won't be able to do that if you burn out in the first six months. Go out with your friend.

She's a little busy. Her brother is getting married tomorrow.

Taffy drops her boss's gaze and busies herself with the reqs again.

MELODY

So read a book. Anything. Just get out of here. Go DO something else.

TAFFY

I'll leave in just a moment.

METIODY

Now.

TAFFY

But I'm in the middle.

MELODY

The program let's you pick it up in the same place.

Taffy frowns and eyes her boss.

TAFFY

You're going to stand there until I shut down aren't you?

MELODY

Yep. And my husband's waiting in the car.

Taffy sighs. She closes all the programs and shuts down the computer. Melody smiles.

INT. TAFFY'S CAR - NIGHT

Taffy waves to Melody and her husband as they drive out of the parking lot. Taffy starts her own car, but just sits.

The light on her cell phone blinks in the cupholder.

Taffy picks up the phone. Dials her voicemail on speakerphone.

VOICEMAIL

You have sixteen new messages. First message.

DAISY (V.O.)

Where are you? I am so in crisis mode. You've got to get here NOW!

Taffy frowns as she puts her car in gear.

VOICEMAIL

Next message.

DAISY (V.O.)

Taffy? Don't tell me you're still at work. I lost that number.

Taffy smiles.

TAFFY

It's programmed in your phone,
silly.

VOICEMAIL

Next message.

DAISY (V.O.)

Taf, they're going to kill me if they find out. I need your help.

The smile slides from Taffy's face. She hangs up the phone and peels out of the parking space.

EXT. SELLERS' HOUSE - NIGHT

Taffy creeps through the bushes. The branches catch in her baggy suit. Avoiding the light that spills from the formal dining room, Taffy hurries towards the house.

Leaning against the brick, she can't resist looking in at the guests talking and laughing around the elegantly decorated table. One seat is conspicuously empty.

Taffy sighs as her gaze is drawn to THEODORE "TEDDY" SELLERS (29), dazzling, charming, charismatic, where he sits in the place of honor at the table. The dreamy smile fades away as he leans over to kiss BELYNDA LAWRENCE (30), beyond gorgeous and flawlessly made up, on her perfect red lips.

Taffy slips back into the shadows just as Teddy turns her way with a puzzled look on his face.

INT. SELLERS' HOUSE - DAISY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

DAISY SELLERS (24), perky ball of energy with blonde hair piled impossibly high on her head, paces the room. Every time she turns, she has pause a moment for the hair to catch up before going back.

A hand grasps the window sill from outside.

Daisy looks at it and folds her arms. Taps her foot.

A second hand joins it. Then Taffy's head appears in the opening. She pulls herself through the window.

DAISY

It sure took you long enough.

Taffy kicks off her pumps relieved. Does a double take when she sees Daisy.

TAFFY

What IS that on your head?

DAISY

You know how many Scandinavians had to die for this? Don't knock it.

Taffy bites back her laugh.

TAFFY

You have to walk down the aisle like that? Priceless.

DAISY

I have a major crisis here and you can do is make fun of my hair.

TAFFY

You mean the hair isn't the crisis.

Daisy opens one fist. A huge diamond sparkles in her palm.

TAFFY (CONT'D)

Wow. That's some rock. What's wrong with it?

DAISY

It's supposed to be in this.

She opens her other fist to reveal a ring with an empty setting.

Were you wearing that tomorrow?

DAISY

No. It's Belinda's. The engagement ring Teddy gave her. As the maid of honor I was entrusted with it's safe keeping and look.

Daisy thrusts the pieces toward Taffy. She takes them and looks. A wistful look settles on her face.

TAFFY

He must really love her.

DAISY

So not the point right now. I've got to get this to a jeweler and I can't leave the house. These stupid traditions.

TAFFY

It's after nine o'clock. Where are we going to find a jeweler this late?

DAISY

I know. But I've got to get this fixed somehow. Teddy paid over ten grand for it.

TAFFY

Ten grand? There's no way this should have come apart. Not unless he was swindled. Are you sure it's real.

DAISY

Teddy's too thorough to be tricked. I know how we can find out.

She hurries to the patio door. Motions for Taffy to follow.

EXT. SELLERS' HOUSE - TINY PATIO - NIGHT

Daisy and Taffy stay close to the house as they creep along the patio.

It'd be so much easier getting in and out your room if your parents had built the trellis closer to this patio.

DAISY

Yeah. It's unfortunate they're not stupid. Here.

Daisy kneels and peeks inside the next door. Taffy does the same.

DAISY (CONT'D)

Good. He must still be at dinner.

TAFFY

He is.

Daisy tries the doorknob. It's locked.

TAFFY (CONT'D)

Now what?

Daisy pops a pane of glass out of the door. Reaches in to flip the lock. Opens the door and turns to smile at Taffy.

INT. SELLERS' HOUSE - TEDDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Daisy hurries inside. Taffy steps in and looks around in awe. Everything is super tidy and organized. She smiles her approval. The smile fades and she looks at Daisy.

TAFFY

Are you sure we should be in here?

DAISY

Teddy won't mind what he doesn't know. C'mon.

Daisy rushes to a set of file cabinets. Bites her lip uncertainly.

DAISY (CONT'D)

Where do I look? W for wedding?

Taffy joins her. Opens the cabinet next to Daisy.

TAFFY

C for certificate?

They both flip through the files. Daisy more carelessly than Taffy.

Taffy pulls out a file.

DAISY

It's scary how alike you two think.

Taffy blushes, but quickly flips through the folder.

TAFFY

Here. The ring Teddy bought is definitely real. See?

Daisy reads over her shoulder. She points to the lab name on the certificate.

TAFFY (CONT'D)

They wouldn't risk their reputation for glass.

DAISY

But Belinda gave it to me. How do we tell if it's still real? It should cut glass, right?

Daisy starts to scratch the stone across the glass pane she put on top of the file cabinet. Taffy grabs her hand.

TAFFY

No. There was another way. Remember? The class you insisted we take?

DAISY

Class?

TAFFY

That what's his name was in.

DAISY

Who?

TAFFY

You know. James? Jason? Yes, Jason!

DAISY

Ah. Jason. He had the most gorgeous eyes. And the cutest little rear end.

TAFFY

A little focus, here.

DAISY

Oh I'm focused. Shhhh!

Daisy cocks her head to listen.

TEDDY (O.S.)

Where's the fun in that, sweetheart? Let me surprise you.

BELYNDA (O.S.)

Then surprise me now.

Taffy and Daisy look at the door to the hallway then each other. They scramble to return the file and out the patio door.

EXT. SELLERS' HOUSE - TINY PATIO - NIGHT

Daisy closes the door and looks to replace the glass pane. Taffy points to it where it's still on the file cabinet.

Daisy turns the knob to go get it, but Teddy opens the door to his bedroom from the hallway. They shrink out of sight.

DAISY

(whispers)

Go!

TAFFY

But he'll see it.

DAISY

Do you really want to be out here when he does?

Taffy shakes her head and they scramble back to Daisy's room.

INT. SELLERS' HOUSE - DAISY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Taffy collapses on Daisy's bed in relief. Daisy quietly closes the patio door behind them.

TAFFY

That was too close.

DAISY

C'mon. It got the old adrenaline flowing.

My adrenaline was just fine where it was.

She sits up.

TAFFY (CONT'D)

You wouldn't still have the text book would you?

DAISY

What text book?

TAFFY

Jason.

DAISY

Oh. Hold on.

Daisy pulls a trunk from her closet. Kneels on the floor to dig through it.

DAISY (CONT'D)

Let's see. Ted. Larry. Khalil. Warner. Jason. Here we go.

She holds up a large text book still wrapped in plastic. Taffy laughs. Takes the book and tears open the plastic.

TAFFY

You never even opened it? I had to study my butt off.

DAISY

Jason was a great tutor.

TAFFY

Good grief.

Taffy checks the table of contents and flips through the book. Daisy flops down beside her.

TAFFY (CONT'D)

Here. Let's see. A piece of paper and a pen should do it.

Daisy hands her a pen. Taffy looks at her quizzically.

TAFFY (CONT'D)

And paper. I need to make a dot.

DATSY

What? You have a lap full of paper.

I'm not writing in this book. It's brand new.

Daisy sighs and takes the pen back. She makes a dot on the page before Taffy can protest.

DATSY

There. Now what?

Taffy cuts her eyes at Daisy and heaves a sigh. Holds out her hand.

TAFFY

Let me see the diamond.

Daisy hands it to her. Taffy holds it on the dot.

The dot is magnified and clearly seen through the top of the diamond.

DAISY

Well?

TAFFY

It's a fake. Cubic Zirconia.

Daisy pops up off the bed. Paces again.

DAISY

I knew it! I knew that tramp did something to the ring. I bet she sold the stone.

TAFFY

C'mon. I sure she didn't. Why would she sell the stone from the man she loves?

DAISY

She doesn't love him. She loves his money. What a gold digging wretch!

TAFFY

This is your future sister in law you're talking about. What about giving her the benefit of the doubt? Maybe she needed the money for a sick relative or something.

Daisy spins to look at Taffy.

DAISY

You haven't met this woman. She is positively horrible.

TAFFY

I can't believe Teddy would fall in love with someone like that.

DAISY

She's got him snowed. When he's around she's all sweetness and light. But let him leave. Talk about Jekyll and Hyde.

TAFFY

And none of you told Teddy this?

Daisy snorts.

DAISY

He doesn't believe anyone is that good of an actress. To be honest, if I hadn't seen it, I wouldn't believe it either.

Daisy resumes her pacing while Taffy thoughtfully closes the book and throws the plastic wrap in the trash.

TAFFY

So what do we do? About the ring I mean.

Daisy paces a few steps more. Slows to a stop and turns to Taffy with a huge grin.

DAISY

We fix it.

TAFFY

Fix it? How?

DAISY

I'm not going down for this. I can see it now. She'll make a big production of how I stole her precious stone and whatever. I bet she was counting on it falling apart while I had it.

TAFFY

That's a little far fetched don't you think?

DAISY

Not where this woman is concerned.

Daisy starts rummaging through drawers.

TAFFY

Are you sure your dislike of the woman isn't coloring your judgement?

DAISY

So what if is? Doesn't matter since I'm right.

She closes the night table drawer and heads through the closet. Taffy hops up to follow.

INT. SELLERS' HOUSE - DAISY'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Daisy searches through drawers. Taffy leans against the doorjamb to study her with a frown.

TAFFY

What are you looking for?

Daisy grins and triumphantly holds up a tube of super glue.

DAISY

Let me see that stone.

Taffy hands it to her. Daisy gleefully lays the stone and the ring on the counter. She pulls the container apart and lets the mangled tube slide out into her hand.

DAISY (CONT'D)

Did you know that you can remove super glue with nail polish remover?

TAFFY

Can't say that I did. What does that have to do with the ring?

DAISY

So we glue the ring back together then tomorrow, I accidentally spill some nail polish remover on Belynda's hand. The stone pops out in front of everybody. She can't explain it. Teddy dumps her. We all live happily ever after.

Let's say you somehow manage to pull off all of that. How do you know Teddy will leave her?

DAISY

Teddy is an investor. When he sees that she's not. It's all over.

Taffy thinks for a moment. She joins Daisy at the counter and picks up the ring for a closer look.

TAFFY

I think we can get the stone to sit this way.

DATSY

Perfect!

Taffy hold the ring while Daisy tries to get the glue to come out. She squeezes and squeezes. Twists and twists. Nothing.

TAFFY

Are you sure there's something in there?

DAISY

There has to be. I just used some this morning.

TAFFY

Or you used it all.

Daisy stops struggling with the tube and points to a little bump.

DAISY

See that? Little pocket. There's some left.

Taffy takes the tube from her and turns it over. The whole thing is completely flat.

TAFFY

It's empty.

DAISY

It can't be. It's the last one.

TAFFY

It's okay, sweetie. We'll go buy another one.

DAISY

Are you forgetting? The Sellers' family tradition? The whole wedding party is here. And we're on lockdown. We're supposed to be bonding with the happy couple.

TAFFY

So I'll go and bring it right back.

She starts for the door, but Daisy grabs her arm.

DAISY

You can't leave me here alone with her. There's no telling what I might do. There's this pair of scissors in the room with Belynda's dress. Calling me. "Daisy. Daaaisy."

Taffy laughs.

TAFFY

You wouldn't.

Daisy quirks an eyebrow and marches out of the bathroom. Taffy watches her for a shocked moment. Scampers after her.

INT. SELLERS' HOUSE - DAISY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Daisy is almost to the door leading into the house when Taffy darts past her and blocks the exit.

TAFFY

Get a grip. You're not going to cut up Belynda's wedding dress. There's no way that wouldn't be traced back to you.

Daisy's shoulders slump. The hair nearly pulls her the rest of the way over. Taffy catches it.

DAISY

You're right. Super glue is my only hope to stop this wedding and save my brother's life.

TAFFY

Okay, okay. You can come with me. But do you really think you can get that hair out the window?

Daisy perks up.

DAISY

You bet.

She races to the window and looks out. Her face becomes a little uncertain.

DAISY (CONT'D)

Grab my wallet, will you? It's on the desk.

Taffy rifles through the desk while Daisy experiments with ways to get her head outside.

Taffy's hands stop when she uncovers a picture of her in a softball uniform with her amazing pitching stats underneath the glass covering the desk.

TAFFY

You still have this?

Daisy grips the window sill to keep from toppling out head first.

DAISY

What?

TAFFY

My softball picture.

Taffy finds the wallet and hurries to help balance Daisy.

DAISY

You signed the back. Remember? It's my proof I knew you when.

TAFFY

Please. I haven't played in years. There's a team starting up at work I was considering.

DAISY

You have to do it. I miss watching you play.

Taffy blushes.

TAFFY

Let's just handle the issue at hand. What if you went foot first? So you'll have something to support the hair.

Daisy nods. Turns around and steps out blind.

EXT. SELLERS' HOUSE - BACKYARD - NIGHT

Daisy carefully climbs down. Taffy eases out the window after her. Helps support the hair as they descend together.

Right when they reach the middle, huge floodlights snap on. They bathe the entire yard in light revealing the set up for the ceremony the next day.

Taffy and Daisy look at each other in panic. Cling to the trellis.

Below them, Belynda strides out to view the seating. She double checks the padlock securing the decorative chain preventing anyone from walking down her aisle.

Teddy comes out. He smiles as he observes her.

TEDDY

Here you are. See? I told you everything was still perfect.

BELYNDA

It's silly. I know. I just want the day to be absolutely amazing for you.

Teddy trails his knuckles lovingly across her cheek. Settles the arm around her as he guides her to sit on a bench.

TEDDY

As long as you're there it will be amazing.

Belynda smiles and leans on his shoulder Teddy kisses the top of her head.

Taffy stares at them wistfully.

Daisy frowns as she notes her friend's expression. Understanding lights her eyes. She makes a gagging motion when Taffy looks at her. They share a smile.

Taffy points up. Daisy nods. They climb back up the trellis.

Daisy sticks her head through the window with Taffy supporting her. The hair sucks her through with a THUMP.

Taffy freezes and looks at Belynda and Teddy below.

Teddy looks around with a slight frown, but Belynda grabs his attention with a kiss.

Taffy exhales. Daisy appears in the window.

DAISY

Are we good?

TAFFY

We're good.

She prepares to climb up the last few rungs.

TEDDY

Just imagine. Pretty soon there'll be a little Belynda or Teddy running around this back yard when we drop them off to visit Grandma and Grandpa.

Taffy's foot slips on the rung. She clings to the trellis for dear life.

Belynda smiles.

BELYNDA

Let's not rush things. I want you all to myself for a little while.

TEDDY

For a little while. I can't wait to see our baby growing. Right in there.

He playfully tickles her. She hugs him quickly. Just before her smile slides away to utter disgust.

BELYNDA

Me, either.

Taffy stops floundering long enough to see Belynda's expression change. She frowns. Fights to get her feet under her to finish the ascent.

Not paying attention, her pump catches on the edge of the trellis.

Taffy turns in time to see it fall.

TAFFY

(whispers)

Move!

Daisy steps aside.

Taffy springs up and through the window just as the pump hits the ground.

Teddy frowns at the muffled WHOMP as the shoe lands in the bushes. Pulls away from Belynda.

TEDDY

You hear something?

BELYNDA

Just the beating of our hearts as one.

He smiles at her. Helps her up from the bench and leads her back towards the house. He looks around suspiciously as they go.

INT. SELLERS' HOUSE - DAISY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Taffy lays sprawled on the floor trying to catch her breath. Daisy stands over her.

DAISY

What? Did they see us?

Taffy shakes her head. But holds up her bare foot.

TAFFY

I lost a shoe.

DAISY

But they didn't see us?

TAFFY

No.

Daisy sinks to the bed in relief.

DAISY

We need a plan B.

TAFFY

We need to come clean and let the chips fall where they may.

DAISY

Seeing that all the chips are going to fall on me, I don't like that idea.

Taffy sits up to look at Daisy.

TAFFY

I don't see how. You can prove the stone is a fake.

DAISY

But I can't prove that I'm not the one responsible for the fake. Believe me. She is that good.

Taffy rubs a tired hand over her face. Looks out the window at the well lit back yard.

TAFFY

Okay. Plan B. Front door. No one'll see us once we get outside.

DATSY

But everyone's in the front of the house bonding. We can't get to the door.

Daisy hops up from the bed. Pulls a pair of beat up old shoes from underneath it. Taffy stares at the shoes.

DAISY (CONT'D)

Back door. No one should be in the kitchen since dinner is over. Lit or not we should be able to get across the back yard and no one be the wiser.

TAFFY

Where did you get those? I've been looking for them for months.

She slides her feet into the shoes. Smiles nostalgically.

DAISY

They're horrible looking.

TAFFY

They're comfortable. And my favorites. I can't believe you stole my shoes.

DAISY

I did you a favor. Can we focus, please?

Taffy stands.

Okay. I'm ready.

DAISY

Let's go.

INT. SELLERS' HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

The hallway is empty. Daisy sticks her head out of her room to look around. Seeing no one, she opens the door to step in the hallway. Taffy cautiously follows.

DAISY

Remember. No one can see you. You're not supposed to be here.

TAFFY

Got it.

The girls tiptoe down the hall toward the back stairs.

Nearly there, a grey head bobs into view.

Taffy watches transfixed as GRANDMA SELLERS (72), dances up the stairs iPod clutched in one wrinkled, bony hand, a cane swings to the beat in the other.

Daisy grabs Taffy by her suit coat and pulls her out of sight into a quest bedroom.

Grandma Sellers does a quick booty shake then goes in the bathroom.