

LUCKY

A Dramatic Reading

by
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AUTHOR'S NOTE: Maykayla is a young woman that was abused by her father causing severe mental retardation. Here we listen to her story of how "Lucky" she was to survive and her quest to be normal again. (Piece can also be rewritten for a male actor.)

(Talking to audience) Hi. My name is Maykayla Ann Smith, but my friends call me Lucky. Would you like to be my friend? I would like to be yours. I am just as normal as you are. I like to watch TV, I like to roller-skate, I like to...What? My name...Oh...Yeah, it is a little strange isn't it?...My mother... Ann Marie Smith...well, she gave that name to me...Lucky that is.

I'll never forget the day...It was on December 11, 1981. Most people don't believe that I can remember that long ago, but I do...I do!! I remember it as though it was yesterday. I was 9 years old... (remembering) I was like you...Normal. (Excitement in eyes and voice) I was wearing a dress, a red and blue one with small flowers, it used to be my grandmother's dress...It was a little worn, but I didn't care... It was my grandmother's and I always looked up to her because she was so strong and brave...and the dress made me feel just that way, strong and brave...that is...until...two weeks before Christmas...

We were expecting some visitors over from my father's company...He was an executive of some sort and he was up for a promotion and wanted the evening to be just perfect...it was supposed to be the time of year that everybody is in the Christmas spirit - joyful, giving, loving - but we weren't...You see it was my daddy...he just couldn't control himself. When things didn't go the way he'd planned...well, lets just say you should have tried harder to make sure they did. We had just finished dinner...chicken, corn, mashed potatoes...those were my favorites...(Pointing over to other side of room) My daddy was sitting in the large brown chair in the other room while my mother was picking things up. I can still hear those words from my daddy...

(Maykayla slowly turns around transforming from a mentally handicapped child into her father. Yelling as though she, now her father, was talking to Maykayla back on that horrible evening.)
MAYKAYLA...YOU LAZY DAUGHTER OF MINE...ARE YOU GOING TO GET THESE DISHES CLEANED OR AM I GOING TO HAVE TO...(Quickly switching to Maykayla as a "normal" child) Yes, Daddy...I will...I will do the dishes...I am going to do them right now!

--- END OF FREE PREVIEW ---