



“The Unimaginable Crime” by Callie Schurr
2nd Place, Short Play 16-18



SP-007/16-18

The Unimaginable Crime 1

The Unimaginable Crime

A comedic interpretation of a teenager's life.

Cast of Characters:

KENT - Male, 17-year-old teenager, Chad like character (a jock but a little smarter)

JEMIMA - Female, late 40s, mother of KENT, southern accent

CHARLIE - Male, late 40s, father of KENT, strongly built, former football player

SAVANNAH - Female, 15-year-old, sister of KENT, fashionable, has a boyfriend and you can tell

SCENE 1 - CHARLES FAMILY HOME

Internal family suburban house, normal middle class looking. Couch center stage with a coffee table in front. Front door stage right and back door stage left.

A spotlight focuses on stage left. We see the back door, a doormat with a dog bowl next to it, and a side table.

KENT enters stage left. He peeks through the back door window. He's wearing all black and a black hat. He looks like your classic robber. He gets the door open and sneaks in.

He pads silently with giant exaggerated steps. The spotlight follows him. He trips over the doggie bowl and makes a lot of noise.

Stage lights turn on. We see the homeowners, JEMIMA and CHARLIE. JEMIMA has her hand still on the light switch with the other hand on her hip. CHARLIE is carrying a baseball bat.

JEMIMA

(southern accent)

Now what are you doing here?

KENT looks up at JEMIMA and CHARLIE with a shocked expression on his face.

KENT

Mom! I live here!

KENT gets up off the floor and dusts himself off. The parents close in on him.

KENT

Look whatever you think I did...

He backs away from them with his hands up. They end up backing him into the couch.

JEMIMA

Oh, we know what you did KENT.

KENT

But I can explain.

JEMIMA

Oh you don't need to explain.

KENT

What?

JEMIMA

We already know what you did.

KENT

(looking concerned)

You do?

JEMIMA

Yes. All we need is a confession but that is
up to you.

KENT

You guys are lying. You have no idea what I
did.

CHARLIE sits down next to KENT on the couch and puts his hand on KENT's leg.

JEMIMA takes a position behind the couch.

CHARLIE

Look, KENT. I don't want any harm to come
to you. All you need is to tell me what you
did and everything will be okay.

KENT

Hah! See! You don't know what I did.

CHARLIE

Look, KENT. We were so heartbroken when
we learned what you did. We thought we

had raised you better than this. To not make
stupid decisions.

KENT

Dad! I'm 17. I don't need you two to look
after me anymore.

JEMIMA

Ha! Well, then what's this!

She slams a manilla folder on the coffee table. KENT opens it. There are a bunch of
pictures with titles on them. KENT reads a couple out loud and he flips through the
pictures on the beat.

KENT

Dunking a basketball.

(beat)

Sneaking out through the window.

(beat)

Dunking a basketball after jumping out the
window. You've been spying on me?!

CHARLIE

Of course not KENT. We're simply just
looking out for you.

KENT picks up a picture.

KENT

Is that what you call having pictures of me singing karaoke in my room? I have a right to listen to the Beach Boys in private. I don't need looked out for when I'm listening to a boy band.

CHARLIE

Look, KENT. We care about you. You get certain special privileges in this house and we just want to make sure you use those wisely.

KENT

What are you even talking about?

CHARLIE

I'm sorry it's come to this KENT but...

JEMIMA slaps the back of KENT's head.

KENT

Oww!

JEMIMA leans over to where her mouth is right next to KENT's ear.

JEMIMA

(loud whisper)

Look here, son! You better start telling the truth or you will seriously regret it.

KENT

You haven't asked any questions for me to answer.

JEMIMA

Stop avoiding the question!

CHARLIE

KENT, it's very simple. Tell us where you were yesterday afternoon at 3:24 pm.

KENT

Well you could have just started with that...

JEMIMA

(yelling)

Answer the question! Stop avoiding it!

KENT

Wait! Hold up! You guys are doing the good cop, bad cop routine.

There is a long silence and the parents look at each other while KENT looks back and forth between them looking happy that he figured it out. They start mouthing to each other and pointing at each other than themselves. Finally they both nod while pointing at JEMIMA. JEMIMA breaks down crying on the couch.

JEMIMA

(between sobs)

I just thought... I raised you better than
this... that *we* raised you better... than this...

KENT

Mom! Mom, what's wrong?! Dad, why is she
crying?

CHARLIE

Because she thought you were better than
this?

KENT

Look if this is about me sneaking out I can
explain. You see I was just trying to get my
John's frisbee out of our tree for him...

CHARLIE

No, KENT. That's not what this is. It's not
about your nighttime charades. It's about
this...

CHARLIE pulls out an empty milk jug.

KENT

Uhhhh...

CHARLIE

When we saw it we couldn't believe it. We
couldn't believe that you would...

CHARLIE gets choked up so JEMIMA finishes.

JEMIMA

We couldn't believe that you would put the
empty milk jug back in the fridge.

Both parents continue to sob while KENT just looks confused.

KENT

Wait! Guys! That wasn't me.

JEMIMA

Oh at least have the decency to tell the truth.

KENT

I am. I have an alibi.

CHARLIE

Well then who was it?

They all look at each other. They jump back from each other and start ad lib blaming each other.

KENT

Wait! Be quiet! Do you hear that?

Everything falls quiet.

CHARLIE

Hear what?

Both JEMIMA and KENT shush him.

They hear rustling outside. The stage lights all go out except for the ones on the back door. We see a girl's face peek through the window. This is SAVANNAH. She's wearing a black hat. She gets the door open and sneaks in. She's wearing fashionable clothing with a black beanie. She looks like your classic teenage cheerleader who is always hanging out with her boyfriend. She pads silently with giant exaggerated steps. The spotlight follows her. She trips over the doggie bowl and makes a lot of noise.

Stage lights turn on. We see JEMIMA, CHARLIE, and KENT. JEMIMA has her hand still on the light switch with the other hand on her hip. CHARLIE is carrying a baseball bat and KENT is holding the milk jug.

JEMIMA

(southern accent)

Now what are you doing here?

SAVANNAH looks up at JEMIMA, CHARLIE, and KENT with a shocked expression on her face.

SAVANNAH

Mom! I live here!

(beat)

Whatever KENT said I did, he's lying.

CURTAIN