

New Kid in The Flock

By Tambra Kay Petrie

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STORY OF THE PLAY

Here is a lighthearted comedy about the hardship a teenage boy, Matt Duncan, goes through after his father accepts a promotion and moves the family from Santa Cruz, California, to a small mid-western town. Matt is forced to make new friends and important choices that could affect the rest of his life. The Duncans' new neighbors, Bill and Maggie Thorne, lead them to Christ, and invite them to their local church.

Unfortunately, the youth group at the local church is not very receptive of Matt, as indicated in the first scene when Matt is accused of packing a gun in his over-sized pants. When his clutzy new neighbor, Frisbee Thorne, trips over a stack of metal folding chairs, the kids hit the floor in protection as Frisbee shouts, "He's got a gun!" Immediately, Maggie Thorne and the Youth Director, Jim Johnson enter the room. To cover themselves for their outrageous behavior, the students bow their heads and quote The Lord's Prayer.

Fortunately, Jim Johnson, Maggie Thorne and Callie Collins are able to get through to Matt and the church group, and Matt accepts Christ and begins his new relationship with the church kids, who also start anew.

Playing Time: 60 minutes

DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this play to my teenage son, Eric, who has been and continues to be an inspiration and a challenge in my life. I look forward to watching him grow in the Lord and use all of his many talents for God's glory. He is one of my most treasured blessings.

The Playwright
Tambra Kay Petrie

CAST OF CHARACTERS/COSTUMING

(3 m, 2 w, 5 teen girls, 9 teen boys, extras.)

RANDOLPH “FRISBEE” THORNE: The narrator of the story. He dresses in wild, bright colors, sometimes mismatched. Bill and Maggie’s 16-year-old son, very jovial, more of a follower than a leader in youth group at church. A good kid, but doesn’t take a stand when it needs to be done—but he changes.

MATT DUNCAN: A quiet 15-year-old. His family moved to Springville, Missouri, after his father, Jerry Duncan, was offered a promotion. Matt had been a good child while living in California, but acquired a real “attitude” since he was forced to move. He starts running around with Butch and the wrong crowd, beginning to party a lot. He changes from clean-cut looking to wearing black clothes and greasy hair. At the end he changes back.

JERRY DUNCAN: Matt’s father. A new Christian, 38 years old, quiet. He dresses very nicely — especially at church. He recently moved his family due to a promotion. He was led to the Lord by his new neighbor, Bill Thorne.

LINDA DUNCAN: Matt’s mother, a new Christian, 37 years old. She is quiet and dresses nicely, but casual. Recently accepted the Lord, thanks to her new neighbor, Bill Thorne.

BILL THORNE: “Frisbee’s” father. Deacon of local church, a strong Christian, 40 years old. Neighbor of Duncans and very easy going. He dresses casually at all times.

MAGGIE THORNE: “Frisbee’s” mother, 38 years old and a strong Christian. Very talkative and cheerful.

BRYAN PATTERSON: Pastor’s son, 16 years old. A leader in the youth group at church and at school. Is unaccepting and threatened by newcomers, not a very good example of a Christian. Has a crush on Callie Collins, but she doesn’t seem impressed by him. He dresses as would a normal teen.

CALLIE COLLINS: Colton's twin sister. Very pretty and sweet. She tries to befriend Matt Duncan, ignoring the negativism of the other church kids. She dresses very nice, not trendy.

COLTON COLLINS: Callie's twin brother, 16 years old. Bryan's "shadow" and sidekick. A "Christian bully," he doesn't harm others physically, but hurts with words instead. He goes through all the motions of being a Christian, since he was brought up in church, but is not a Christian. He dresses normally.

LISA STEWART: A 16-year-old and very pretty. Dresses very "trendy," wears a lot of makeup and hair in "foo-foo" style. An "air head," self-centered and very appearance oriented.

STEPHANIE SONNERS: Lisa's best friend, 16 years old. Very pretty and dresses very "trendy." She wears a lot of makeup. An "air head," very self-centered and appearance oriented. You would think she's Lisa's clone.

MICHELLE KING: A 16-year-old. Not really anyone's best friend. She has a smart mouth and attitude. She dresses in very plain clothes with straight hair style and very little makeup.

BUTCH FREEGER: The school "gangster," 16 years old. He's into drinking, drugs, girls, etc. He befriends Matt when he sees that no one else will accept him into their group. He leads Matt down the wrong "road." He wears mostly black clothing and has greasy-looking hair.

DREW BARNES: Butch Freeger's "side kick," also 16. He is very rude with an explosive temper, but obeys Butch's orders. He dresses like to Butch.

BRENDA JACKSON: Part of Butch's gang also 16 years old. Very hard-hearted and wild acting. She wears a lot of makeup with black lipstick. She has a very "large" hair style, with big earrings and necklaces, with black clothing.

SHERMAN THERMAN: The school “intellectual nerd,” he’s president of the computer club, chess club and debate team. He tries to befriend Matt, which ends up embarrassing Matt instead. He should dress the part of a nerd with high-waist pants, large-framed thick glasses, high-water pants, white socks, and dress shirt with pocket crammed with pens, etc.

WHILEY KILEY: A 15-year-old clone to Sherman.

HUBERT NELSON: A 15-year-old clone to Sherman.

JIM JOHNSON: High school Sunday school teacher and youth director at a local church. The kids all like him. He is also a very strong Christian and is distressed about the dedication of his youth group and the unacceptance of others that they portray.

EXTRAS: If youth group has additional teens, add them in as extras. Butch Freeger could use some “tough” acting friends (both boys and girls). Bryan Patterson could use some additional church kids who act as followers of Colton and himself, as well. Use as many extras as you can.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Any time Frisbee speaks to audience during the middle of conversation with cast, the actors should continue “mimicking” silent conversations, as if Frisbee is not speaking and they do not notice anything. The only time they freeze when he’s talking to the audience is when the script specifically instructs them to — like at the beginning or end of a scene.

Additional Production Notes at end of script

ACT I
Scene 1

(AT RISE: A Sunday morning in July. The high school Sunday school classroom of the Harmony Community Church. No one is on stage when LIGHTS come up.)

FRISBEE: *(Enters with box of donuts in HIS hands. He looks out doorway to see if anyone's coming, then happily opens the box, pulls out a donut, and takes a big bite. He moans with gratification of the taste, glances around room to make sure no one else is there, dumps the half-eaten donut back in the box and begins quickly taking a bite out of each donut. He now has several bites of donut in his mouth, which he has not chewed yet. He looks up and notices the audience. Startled, he spits the donut pieces into the donut box.)* Sorry. Didn't see ya there. Uh, you won't tell my mom about the...*(Points at box.)*...cool. See, I didn't get any breakfast 'cuz my mom woke me up too late. Yeah, she always oversleeps on Sundays, then she runs around the house yelling at US to get up and get moving. Like, it's OUR fault. Right! This morning she got bent outta shape when I asked her to wash my blue jeans. She said I had to "dress up to go to God's house." I said, "Mom, nobody else dresses up. Why do I have to?" Then she said, "Oh, and I suppose if no one else brushed their teeth, you'd let YOUR teeth rot out of your head, too?" Right. Check this out, I said, "No, but, Dad never dresses up for church." Two seconds flat my dad was racing for the car with my mom on his heels, nagging him about looking like he was going to a golf game. *(Chuckles.)* She forgot all about me! Although, *(Sniffs his shirt.)* I probably should've worn a different shirt. This one's getting kinda ripe.

(Group of church KIDS enter classroom talking silently. All kids should act very friendly and happy. YOUTH DIRECTOR enters and begins preparing his podium for the lesson.)

End of Freeview

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