

...and stuff... by Peter Dee

Using monologues and short scenes, ...and stuff..., is a reflection on the teen experience of living and surviving in the "now" of this country. Here, SANDY tells her friend Deana, who has just returned from the "big city" after experiencing her own hardships, that life at home can be just as tough. SANDY tells her about an incestuous rape she suffered by her father.

SANDY

So you saw life in the big city. You're the first one I know that's been to the big city. I finished counseling last week. Did you know they made me go to counseling? I didn't want to go. My dad got probation and I got counseling. Didn't seem fair to me but they said I had to go. I was eleven and a half when my dad began trying to give me real sloppy kisses. Total gross out. Then I began to wake up at night and find him in my room. Touching me. I'd make him get out. So many nights I tried to keep from falling asleep with a barricade of an old afghan my grandmother made, teddy bears, two Raggedy Anns and stuff to protect me. Like the Great Wall of China, you know. But I couldn't stay awake forever. Then one day I woke up ... sunny morning ... I remember the color of my quilt was so bright and when I touched it there was a slash in it and I could put my hand through the slash and my bathrobe was cut open and so were my pajamas. My underpants were cut open too. The night before I'd woken up and my dad was in my room. Kneeling. I told him to get out. Before he disappeared through the doorway he blew me a kiss. I was hoping my mom would ask how everything got cut up but she never noticed. Can I have another cigarette?

QUESTIONS ABOUT ...and stuff... (Sandy's Monologue)

- The monologue begins with SANDY talking about her friend's trip to the "big city". How does that change as the monologue progresses? Why does she begin in this way?
- In what way does SANDY slowly reveal her past to her friend?
- What is SANDY's attitude toward what has happened to her?
- How is she outwardly trying to deal with the past in her present circumstances?
- How is her outward display in contrast to how she really feels inside?