

FINAL DRAFT
March 24, 1980

THE FACTS OF LIFE

"Flash Flood"

Written by

Jerry Mayer

Directed by

John Bowab

Produced by

Jerry Mayer

A
T.A.T. COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY
PRODUCTION

SHOW : #0112

TAPE : 3/25/80

AIR : TBA

FACTS OF LIFE

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE - MARCH 24 AND 25, 1980

#0112

MONDAY, MARCH 24, 1980

E.S.U.
FAX (ACTORS ON CAMERA)
WARDROBE MODELING W/CAST
LUNCH
FAX
RUN THRU WITH WARDROBE
NOTES WITH CAST

STAGE #7 (x1554, Booth x1556)

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
5:00 PM -

TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1980

E.S.U.
CAMERA NOTES
FAX/RUN-THRU (Simultaneous)
CAST NOTES, M/U, HAIR, WARDROBE
INTROS ON CAMERA
VTR/FAX - DRESS W/AUDIENCE
MEAL - Minors must be given 1 hr. off
CAST NOTES/VT CHECK IN
M/U, HAIR, WARDROBE
INTROS ON CAMERA
VTR/FAX - AIR W/AUDIENCE
P/U'S (ACTORS & CREW ONLY)

STAGE #7 (x1554, Booth x1556)

11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM
12:45 PM - 2:30 PM
2:30 PM - 3:25 PM
3:25 PM - 3:30 PM
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM (Crew
penalty)
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM
5:30 PM - 6:00 PM
6:00 PM - 6:25 PM
6:25 PM - 6:30 PM
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

(Children must be released
by 9:30 - crew penalty after
9:30)

MAKEUP, HAIR AND WARDROBE CALLS:

MAKEUP AND HAIR CALL 10:15 AM
CHARLOTTE RAE 10:30 AM
JOHN LAWLOR, GUEST ACTORS 12:00 PM
MINORS 12:30 PM

THE FACTS OF LIFE

CAST

MRS. EDNA GARRETT. CHARLOTTE RAE
STEPHEN BRADLEY. JOHN LAWLOR
BLAIR. LISA WHELCHER
NANCY. FELICE SCHACHTER
MOLLY. MOLLY RINGWALD
SUE ANN. JULIE PIEKARSKI
TOOTIE KIM FIELDS
NATALIE. MINDY COHN
CINDY. JULIE ANNE HADDOCK
NATIONAL GUARDSMAN VINCENT BUFANO
TV ANNOUNCER LARRY MOLLIN

SETS

INT. COMMON ROOM
INT. STABLE

FACTS OF LIFE - "Flash Flood" #0112

BREAKDOWN OF SCENES

<u>ACT ONE - SCENE ONE</u> (1) <u>INT. COMMON ROOM - DAY</u> (Entire Cast, TV Announcer)				
<u>ACT ONE - SCENE TWO</u> (10) <u>INT. STABLE - DAY</u> (Bradley, Blair, Tootie)				
<u>ACT ONE - SCENE THREE</u> (15) <u>INT. COMMON ROOM-DAY (SAME TIME)</u> (Garrett, Cindy, Natalie, Molly, Nancy, Sue Ann)				
<u>ACT ONE - SCENE FOUR</u> (19) <u>INT. STABLE - DAY</u> (Bradley, Blair, Tootie)				
ACT ONE TOTAL:				
<u>ACT TWO - SCENE ONE</u> (23) <u>INT. COMMON ROOM - DAY</u> (Entire Cast, Soldier)				
ACT TWO TOTAL:				
TOTAL				
TAPE				
DESIRED				
TIME				
OVER/				
UNDER				

ACT ONESCENE ONEFADE IN:INT. COMMON ROOM - DAY

(BLAIR, TOOTIE, NATALIE, CINDY AND SUE ANN ARE WATCHING TV. THE BACK OF THE SET IS TO US. OUTSIDE, IT'S GRAY AND DRIZZLY)

TV ANNOUNCER'S VOICE

...And upstate New York is bracing itself for even more rain as a new front sweeps in from the south. The governor has requested the President to declare the entire state of New York a disaster area.

CINDY

(POUNING A BALL INTO BASEBALL GLOVE)

~~No kidding~~ ^{Really} The baseball field is a sea of mud. I'm gonna turn to flab if I don't get some exercise.

BLAIR

(SHE WALKS TO THE WINDOW)

Why, why doesn't it stop? Haven't we suffered enough? The riding trails are under water. We've been cooped up for days. And I don't want to even think about what the rain is doing to my hair.

(GARRETT ENTERS, CARRYING A WET NEWSPAPER)

TOOTIE

If I don't get to skate soon, I'm gonna have to learn to walk.

GARRETT

Pray for a miracle, Tootie. Maybe you'll be the first person to skate on water. Well, at least they delivered the newspaper.

(SHE WRINGS OUT THE PAPER AND WATER COMES OUT)

Natalie, pop this in the oven, so we can read it tomorrow.

NATALIE

How do you like it? Medium or rare?

(NATALIE TAKES THE PAPER AND EXITS. BRADLEY ENTERS, WEARING A YELLOW RAIN SLICKER)

BRADLEY

Hi, girls.

GIRLS

Hi, Mr. Bradley.

BRADLEY

Boy, it's really bad out there. We've been filling and stacking sandbags all night. If that creek rises another foot, I don't know what's going to happen.

TOOTIE

I do. We'll have to swim to class.

GARRETT

If the earthen dam up on the hill
doesn't hold, the class'll swim to you.

BRADLEY

And we're gonna lose the stable if it
doesn't stop raining.

BLAIR

The stable? "Chestnut Girl" is down
there. She could drown.

TOOTIE

So could my two rabbits, Romeo and
Juliet.

BLAIR

Let's go.

(BLAIR AND TOOTIE START TO GO)

BRADLEY

Girls, you're not going anywhere. If
that dam goes, you'll be under eight
feet of water.

BLAIR

But what about "Chestnut Girl"?

BRADLEY

I'll get to her later.

BLAIR/TOOTIE

But Mr. Bradley...

BRADLEY

Now you're to stay here. Is that
clear? Tootie, Blair?

BLAIR/TOOTIE

Yes.

BLAIR

Very clear.

SFX: THUNDER

TOOTIE

Romeo and Juliet hate thunder. I'm gonna have a couple of bummed out bunnies.

GARRETT

If I know my rabbits, they'll find a way to forget about the thunder.

BRADLEY

I've got to check the other dorms. Girls, it'll be okay.

(BRADLEY AND GARRETT WALK TO THE DOOR)

GARRETT

Mr. Bradley, how bad is it?

BRADLEY

Very bad. That dam's ready to go.

(BRADLEY EXITS)

GARRETT

Girls, I'm gonna double check the basement.

(GARRETT EXITS)

BLAIR

(PUTTING ON RAINCOAT AND HAT)

Sue Ann. I'll be upstairs studying,
you understand?

TOOTIE

(GRABBING HER RAINCOAT, HAT AND UMBRELLA)

And I'll be taking a very long shower.

(TOOTIE WINKS AND EXITS)

SUE ANN

But you just promised you wouldn't
go down there.

BLAIR

We'll be back before we're missed.

Ciao.

(BLAIR GIVES A WAVE AND EXITS. AT THIS
POINT, NATALIE ENTERS, WITH POPCORN BOWL)

SUE ANN

What are we gonna do?

NATALIE

Popcorn?

SUE ANN

Forget the popcorn. Blair and Tootie
just went down to the stable.

(GARRETT ENTERS)

GARRETT

It's not too wet down there. Barely
enough water to float a duck.

(NANCY COMES DOWNSTAIRS, BEAUTIFULLY DRESSED
IN A SKIRT AND BLOUSE)

CINDY

Nancy, where are you going?

NANCY

Roger's driving over with my raincoat.

I left it in his car.

CINDY

Front or back seat?

GARRETT

Nancy, this is lousy weather for a stroll.

NANCY

Roger's never been to the dorm. I'm gonna stand outside, so he won't get mixed up.

NATALIE

Standing outside won't cure that problem.

(NANCY REACTS AND STARES AT NATALIE)

GARRETT

But you'll get drenched.

NANCY

I do know how to open an umbrella.

(SHE EXITS)

NATALIE

Popcorn!

(GARRETT GOES FOR POPCORN, THEN BACKS OFF, GESTURES. MOLLY COMES DOWNSTAIRS HOLDING A WALKIE TALKIE TO HER EAR)

SFX: THUNDER

MOLLY

Could you repeat that?... Okay. Thanks,
K6YBV. I'm going off the air now. 73.

(MOLLY CLICKS OFF HER SET)

Mrs. Garrett, you know my ham radio
buddy, K6YBV?

GARRETT

We've never dated.

MOLLY

He says Stony Point's been evacuated
and it's only five miles away.

GARRETT

Thanks for the warning. Where are
Blair and Tootie?

NATALIE

(MOUTH STUFFED WITH POPCORN)

Mpfht!

GARRETT

Don't talk with your mouth full.
Sue Ann, where are they?

SUE ANN

(RISES)

Let me try to remember what Blair said.
I think it was, 'Sue Ann, I'll be
upstairs studying.' And I think Tootie
is taking a shower.

GARRETT

Fine.

(SUDDENLY NANCY ENTERS, TOTALLY DRENCHED
FROM HEAD TO FOOT AND STRUGGLING WITH THE
STILL UNOPENED UMBRELLA)

NANCY

I can't open the stupid thing.

(NANCY PUSHES THE BUTTON AND THE UMBRELLA
OPENS)

GARRETT

At least the umbrella's dry.

(NANCY LOWERS THE UMBRELLA AND RUNS UPSTAIRS.
BRADLEY ENTERS, HIS SLICKER HOOD IS UP AND
NOW WET)

BRADLEY

Damn it! The dam just broke. The
water's pouring into Eastland Creek.

SUE ANN

Does that mean the stable's in danger?

BRADLEY

Oh, no. The animals. I hope I can get
them out of there.

(CINDY, SUE ANN AND NATALIE ARE ASHEN)

CINDY

Blair and Tootie!!!

GARRETT

What about Blair and Tootie?! They
aren't at the stables!

(CINDY, SUE ANN AND NATALIE NOD IN FEAR)

Why didn't you tell me?

SUE ANN

Well, we tried to tell you.

(GARRETT TAKES BOWL OF POPCORN FROM NATALIE,
AS WE)

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT ONESCENE TWOINT. STABLE - DAY

(THIS IS A SMALL STABLE WHERE THE SCHOOL RIDING HORSES ARE KEPT. BLAIR IS COMFORTING "CHESTNUT GIRL," AN ACTUAL HORSE. TOOTIE STANDS NEXT TO A CAGE WITH TWO WHITE RABBITS. WE HEAR RAIN POUNDING ON THE ROOF)

TOOTIE

(LOOKING OUT WINDOW)

I don't like the way that creek keeps rising.

BLAIR

(PATS HORSE)

It's okay, "Chestnut Girl." -- She's trembling. She senses that we might be afraid.

TOOTIE

Sharp horse.

BLAIR

(TO THE HORSE)

Don't worry, girl. We're gonna be fine. We'll walk out of here in a few minutes.

(TO TOOTIE)

See, she's calmer.

TOOTIE

No, she's dumber. I don't lie to my animals. I give them the straight truth.

(TO THE RABBITS)

Rabbits, you are dead. I'm just kidding.

BLAIR

Don't be such a worrier, Tootie.

Everything will be...

(SHE LOOKS OUT WINDOW)

Oh no!

TOOTIE

Whataya mean "oh no"?

BLAIR

The bridge we came across is washed out. What are we going to do?

TOOTIE

I know one thing, it's time to start lying to my rabbits.

SFX: THUNDER

(THE GIRLS REACT, TERRIFIED, AND JUMP INTO EACH OTHERS' ARMS. SUDDENLY BRADLEY ENTERS. HE'S SOAKED)

BRADLEY

Blair! Tootie!

BLAIR

Mr. Bradley, how did you get here?

BRADLEY

I crossed the creek in the shallowest part, where the water was only waist high.

TOOTIE

Wow, you got damp underwear for us.

SFX: BURST OF THUNDER

BLAIR

I'm sorry, Mr. Bradley. We shouldn't have come down here. 'You must be furious at me.

BRADLEY

Who has time to be furious? I've got to figure a way to get us out of here.

BLAIR

We can't. We're trapped.

BRADLEY

Blair, calm down.

BLAIR

The bridge is out and the water's rising.

(DURING THIS, BRADLEY HOLDS BLAIR'S SHOULDERS TO COMFORT HER)

BRADLEY

Blair.

BLAIR (CONTINUING)

We're gonna drown!

TOOTIE

You gonna slap her, like they do in
the movies?

BRADLEY

Of course not. Blair's fine. Now,
maybe we can save the stable. Tootie,
there's some bags in that bin. Let's
fill 'em and stack 'em.

(HE WHEELS A WHEELBARROW FROM NEARBY,
REACHES INTO WHEELBARROW, FINDS HORSE
BLANKET)

Blair, throw this blanket on the
horse. She's shivering.

BLAIR

Right, Mr. Bradley. You think of
everything.

BRADLEY

(SMILES, TAPS HEAD)

That's the 'head' part of headmaster.

BLAIR

It's wonderful the way you take charge.
Have you ever been through a flood?

BRADLEY

(WHILE WORKING)

Once my bathtub overflowed; but, water
is water.

BLAIR

Joking at a time like this. That's
great.

TOOTIE

(GRABS LARGE, HEAVY SHOVEL, MOTIONS TO BLAIR)

Blair, stop smiling and start shoveling.

(SHE STAGGERS AROUND WITH GIANT SHOVEL)

BRADLEY

(TAKING THE SHOVEL FROM TOOTIE)

Thanks, Tootie, but I'll handle it.

Blair, see if you can find some more
bags. I'll go outside and get some
sand.

(BRADLEY WHEELS IT OFF SCREEN)

BLAIR

(GRABS EMPTY BAG, CALLING AFTER HIM)

Right, Mr. Bradley.

(TO TOOTIE)

Isn't he terrific? I've always thought
of him as a headmaster. I just realized
something. He's a man.

TOOTIE

(TOOTIESQUE)

We are in trouble.

CUT TO:

ACT ONESCENE THREEINT. COMMON ROOM - DAY (SAME TIME)

(THE ROOM IS EMPTY EXCEPT FOR NANCY, NOW IN ROBE, WHO IS ON THE PHONE. HER HAIR IS WRAPPED UP IN A TOWEL)

NANCY

Roger, I know you were trying to get to me, but it's a flood. I just hope your Subaru will be all right. That car is so full of memories, Roger. -- Roger? Hello?

(SHE JIGGLES RECEIVER)

It's dead! Mrs. Garrett, the phone's dead.

(A BEAT LATER, GARRETT RUNS IN DRESSED IN HIP-HIGH WADING BOOTS. SHE'S FOLLOWED BY MOLLY WITH HER WALKIE TALKIE)

GARRETT

Oh no! That's all we needed. What am I saying? No problem. We've got Molly. She's much more reliable than the Telephone Company.

MOLLY

I'm glad you noticed.

(HOLDS HAND OUT)

Deposit ten cents for the next three minutes.

(SUE ANN AND NATALIE AT TOP OF STAIRS)

SUE ANN

Mrs. Garrett, the roof is leaking in
a bunch of places.

NATALIE

Yeah. One of my stuffed animals was
totaled.

GARRETT

Now girls, don't panic.

NATALIE

Can you think of a better time?

GARRETT

Just go to the kitchen, get some
pots and put 'em under the leaks.

NANCY

I'll do it. It'll keep my mind off
Roger.

(NANCY EXITS INTO KITCHEN)

NATALIE

How? Roger's such a drip.

(MOLLY LOOKS OUT WINDOW)

MOLLY

The water's right up to the stable
and I don't see how Blair and Tootie
are gonna get out of there.

SUE ANN

(RUNS TO LOOK)

They'll never make it and it's all
my fault!

WAYS

GARRETT

Girls, Mr. Bradley knows what he's doing. Trust him. The best thing we can do is keep cool.

(NANCY RUNS IN BEHIND GARRETT AND SHOUTS)

NANCY

Mrs. Garrett?!

GARRETT

(LOUDLY)

What!!! Oh, forgive me.

NANCY

We're out of pots.

GARRETT

Are you telling me we don't have a pot to... put the water in? Check the pantry.

(NANCY EXITS TOWARD KITCHEN. SUDDENLY CINDY COMES OUT OF KITCHEN. SHE'S SOAKED, HOLDING BASEBALL GLOVE)

CINDY

Mrs. Garrett, you got a towel?

GARRETT

Cindy, you're soaked!

CINDY

I know. I was in the basement.

GARRETT

(TURNING TO CINDY)

What were you doing down there?...and don't tell me the backstroke.

CINDY

I was getting my spikes.

(CINDY HOLDS UP DRIPPING SHOES)

GARRETT

Cindy, the fuse box is down there,
you could have been electrocuted.

MOLLY

Yeah, without even a last meal.

GARRETT

(POINTING TOWARDS THE KITCHEN)

Girls, nobody go near that basement!

(SUDDENLY ALL THE LIGHTS GO OUT)

Not the electricity too?

NATALIE

At least now it's safe to swim in
the basement.

(GARRETT REACTS TO NATALIE, AS WE)

CUT TO:

ACT ONESCENE FOURINT. STABLE - DAY

(BRADLEY IS SHOVELING DIRT FROM A LARGE WHEELBARROW INTO A SANDBAG WHICH BLAIR IS HOLDING OPEN. TOOTIE STANDS NEARBY WITH HER RABBITS. BRADLEY IS DOWN TO HIS TEE SHIRT. DURING THIS SCENE, THE RAIN ON THE ROOF INCREASES)

BRADLEY

Got to work a little faster here.

SFX: THUNDER

Make that a lot faster.

(HE TIES SANDBAG SHUT)

BLAIR

Can I help you carry that?

BRADLEY

(HE SHAKES HEAD)

It's really not that heavy.

(HIS EYES WIDEN WITH THE STRAIN AND HE GRUNTS AS HE SWINGS IT TO HIS SHOULDER AND STAGGERS OUT THE DOOR)

BLAIR

I'm really seeing a different side of Mr. Bradley.

TOOTIE

(SHE NODS)

The sweaty side.

BLAIR

I never knew an older man could be so interesting and exciting.

TOOTIE

Blair, are you off your perch?

BLAIR

What do you mean?

TOOTIE

You're falling for old-man Bradley.

BLAIR

You noticed?

TOOTIE

Boy, you must really be hard up for good grades.

(BRADLEY STRUGGLES IN, EXHAUSTED)

BRADLEY

The water's rising too fast. We'll have to make a run for it. I'll put the two of you on "Chestnut Girl" and I'll lead you across the shallowest part of the creek. That's the plan. Just pray that the current doesn't sweep us away.

TOOTIE

You wouldn't happen to have a drier plan?

BRADLEY

You'll be fine, Tootie. Pretend you're
a princess on your royal steed.

(HE LIFTS TOOTIE ON TOP OF THE HORSE, HANDS
HER RABBIT CAGE AND UMBRELLA)

TOOTIE

And you're my 'White Knight'. It's
a pretty grim fairy tale.

BRADLEY

(HOLDING HIS ARMS OUT TO HELP HER)

Blair?

BLAIR

I trust you completely.

BRADLEY

Good. Ready?

BLAIR

(HER EYES MEETING HIS)

I know what you're doing for us and
how dangerous it is. Thanks.

(SHE HUGS HIM EMOTIONALLY. HE REACTS
WIDE-EYED. HE SQUIRMS FREE. DURING THIS, WE
GET A STUNNED REACTION FROM TOOTIE)

BRADLEY

Blair!

BLAIR

Yes?

BRADLEY

Up you go.

(HE HELPS HER UP ON THE HORSE, BEHIND TOOTIE)

Okay, girls, if the horse falls
crossing the creek, swim hard for
either bank. Now, hold on tight.

TOOTIE

You didn't have to tell me that.

BLAIR

Stephen.

(HE REACTS)

I just want you to know, if we don't
make it...

(MOUTHS WORDS)

I love you.

(BRADLEY REACTS. BLAIR MOUTHS WORDS AGAIN)

I love you.

(BRADLEY REACTS, AS HE LEADS THE TERRIFIED
GIRLS INTO THE STORM)

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWOSCENE ONEINT. COMMON ROOM - DAY

(CINDY, IN DIFFERENT OUTFIT, IS DRYING HER HAIR AND LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW. SUE ANN IS BY WINDOW AND NATALIE IS ON PHONE. NANCY IS CARRYING A POT)

NATALIE

Roger, you're impossible.

(NANCY ENTERS)

Roger, don't talk like that.

What if Nancy find out.

NANCY

(GRABS PHONE)

Let me have that phone! Hello.

NATALIE

I'm only kidding. The phone is still dead.

SUE ANN

I'll bet my mom's worried sick. Thank

~~God~~ ^{Godness} the lights came back on.

CINDY

I don't believe this. There is a car floating down the street.

NANCY

Let me see.

(SHE RUNS TO WINDOW)

I was afraid it was a Subaru.

(GARRETT ENTERS FROM KITCHEN)

SUE ANN

Mrs. Garrett, the water's getting higher out there.

GARRETT

It's getting higher in the basement, too. The water's up to my...boot tops down there. Any sign of Tootie and Blair?

SUE ANN

No, isn't there something we can do? Can't we go out and look for them?

GARRETT

Absolutely not. I know we are all worried, but Mr. Bradley can handle it.

SUE ANN

I was in a flood in Kansas City and 38 people were lost.

NATALIE

And I bet they were all taller than Tootie.

(TOOTIE ENTERS, CARRYING RABBITS)

TOOTIE

Hi, we made it.

GARRETT

Tootie, you're safe.

(GARRETT AND THE GIRLS AD-LIB CHEERS AND
EXCITEMENT)

TOOTIE

I was really scared there. I needed
everyone of those eight lucky rabbit's
feet.

(GARRETT HUGS TOOTIE)

GARRETT

Where's Blair and Mr. Bradley?

TOOTIE

Blair's lagging behind because of the
sprained ankle.

GARRETT

Sprained ankle? Is she alright?

(BLAIR ENTERS, SUPPORTING BRADLEY, WHO CAN
HARDLY WALK)

BRADLEY

(WAVING WEAKLY)

Hi.

GARRETT

What happened?

BRADLEY

I slipped, crossing the creek.

Twisted my knee and sprained my ankle.

BLAIR

But he got us back...Stephen was the
bravest man I've ever seen.

GARRETT

(REACTS TO 'STEPHEN')

'Stephen?' I'm sure he was.

SFX: THREE LOUD THUMPS AT THE FRONT DOOR

NANCY

It's Roger! He made it!

(RUNS TO DOOR, OPENS IT. "CHESTNUT GIRL"
STANDS THERE)

NATALIE

Hey, you're looking good, Roger.

(THE HORSE STARTS TO COME INTO ROOM)

GARRETT

(GRABBING REINS)

Sorry, Chestnut Girl. I like the
pattern on the rug just the way
it is.

(GENTLY PUSHES HORSE BACK OUTSIDE)

You wait on the porch, dear.

(CLOSES FRONT DOOR)

CINDY

I'll take her around back and dry
her off, Mrs. Garrett.

(SHE EXITS WITH A TOWEL)

BRADLEY

Boy, do I feel dumb. A lot of help
I'm going to be now.

BLAIR

(GAZING INTO HIS EYES)

You took care of us. Now let us take
care of you.

GARRETT

Don't you worry about a thing. The
girls and I can handle everything.

(BLAIR AND GARRETT SEAT BRADLEY ON CHAIR)

Let me get your foot up.

NANCY

What are we gonna do now, Mrs. Garrett?
The telephone's dead.

SUE ANN

And the basement's flooded.

NATALIE

And the roads are under water.

BRADLEY

Don't worry. *Bring the horse*
I'll ride for help.

(HE TRIES TO RISE, WINCES IN PAIN)

GARRETT

Now just relax, Paul Revere. Where does
it hurt?

(GARRETT TOUCHES HIM. HE YELLS)

BRADLEY

Ow!!!

GARRETT

Oh, there. Sorry. Okay girls, get
the picture? We're in charge now.

BRADLEY

Mrs. Garrett, you and the girls can't handle this. This is a flood, not the senior prom.

GARRETT

Mr. Bradley, you've always said that Eastland builds leadership and self-reliance. And now they have a chance to prove it. Thanks to your injury.

(BRADLEY REACTS)

BRADLEY

I'm not that hurt. The worst it could be is a broken ankle.

TOOTIE

Lucky you're not a horse, we'd have to shoot you.

(MOLLY COMES RUNNING DOWN THE STAIRS)

MOLLY

Good news. I got through to K6YBV and he's sending the National Guard to help us.

GARRETT

Good girl, Molly. We could use some help filling sandbags.

MOLLY

No. They can't spare any troops, but they are sending a ^{guy w/ a} four-wheel drive truck to get us out of here.

GARRETT

But what about this place? We can still save it if we all pitch in.

GIRLS

Yeah!

BRADLEY

Without me, forget it! We've got to get these girls to safety.

GARRETT

Mr. Bradley, you're treating them like little girls. They're competent young women. Give them a chance.

BRADLEY

Mrs. Garrett, I'm in charge here.

(TO GIRLS)

Upstairs and pack and take only what's important to you.

(NOBODY MOVES)

I mean now!

GARRETT

Okay, Mr. Bradley, you're the boss.

(GARRETT EXITS)

BLAIR

I'll stay with you, Stephen. Can I
massage your knee?

BRADLEY

Oh no, it'll be all...massage my knee?
And, Blair, please don't call me Stephen.

BLAIR

But we're alone.

BRADLEY

(REACTS)

Especially when we're alone. We'd
better have a serious talk.

BLAIR

(SITS CLOSE TO HIM)

It is serious. At first, I thought
it was just a crush, but it's more
than that.

BRADLEY

Blair, it's the most common thing in
the world for a student to think she's
in love with her headmaster. Especially
when he's not unattractive.

BLAIR

But I don't think of you as attractive.

(BRADLEY REACTS)

It's deeper than that.

BRADLEY

Look, you're a lovely young girl who should be interested in young boys. I'm old enough to be your father...

BLAIR

Barely.

BRADLEY

Well, that's true.

BLAIR

The age difference doesn't matter when two people are as close as we are.

(SHE SMOOTHES HIS HAIR. HE STOPS HER)

BRADLEY

Blair!

(THEN SOFTLY)

Blair. What you feel for me isn't love. It's hero worship.

BLAIR

No it isn't.

BRADLEY

Yes it is. Don't you see? You were a terrified little girl in that stable and I saved you.

BLAIR

I was not terrified. Okay, I was a little scared. But I would have pulled myself together.

BRADLEY

Be honest. You were confused, panicky.
I saw that little girl fear in your eyes.

BLAIR

(RISES)

Hey, stop calling me a little girl.
Tootie and I would have gotten out if
you hadn't shown up.

BRADLEY

Really?

BLAIR

Yes, really. We would have ridden the
horse across the creek by ourselves.

BRADLEY

And you would have found a safe place to
cross?

BLAIR

Of course. And we wouldn't have
sprained our ankles or twisted our
knees, doing it.

BRADLEY

It's easy to say you could've gotten
out by yourself. Lucky, you won't
have to prove it.

BLAIR

I don't have to prove anything. I don't
know what I ever saw in you. Whatever
it was, it's over.

(GARRETT ENTERS)

GARRETT

What's all the shouting about?

BRADLEY

Nothing.

BLAIR

Mr. Bradley and I were discussing how helpless women are. And how we have to wait to be saved by men.

BRADLEY

That isn't what I said, Blair.

GARRETT

What did you say?

(DURING THIS, THE REST OF THE GIRLS COME DOWNSTAIRS WITH THEIR THINGS AND LISTEN. CINDY ENTERS FROM KITCHEN)

BRADLEY

(NOW AWARE OF ALL THE GIRLS)

What I said... Well, it isn't what I said... What I meant was, women are very capable, but they've got to know their...limitations.

GARRETT

Oh, so we have limitations.

BRADLEY

(LOOKS AROUND)

Yes.

(GIRLS REACT AUDIBLY)

(SOLDIER ENTERS WEARING HELMET, FATIGUES, BOOTS)

SOLDIER

I'm the National Guard.

THE GIRLS

OOOH!

SOLDIER

At ease.

BRADLEY

Thank goodness you've come. We're
ready to go.

SOLDIER

All right. Everyone in the truck.

GARRETT

Not on your life.

SOLDIER

What is this? A false alarm here?

GARRETT

(TO SOLDIER)

Tell me, are all the schools in the
Peekskill area being evacuated?

SOLDIER

Well, some of 'em, but they're on lower
ground.

GARRETT

How about Bates Academy? The boys
school?

SOLDIER

They're toughing it out. Y'know, filling
sandbags... digging runoff channels.

GARRETT

Do you think we're in any real danger?

SOLDIER

Not if you had some real men here
who could handle a shovel.

(GIRLS REACT AUDIBLY)

BRADLEY

That was the wrong thing to say.

MOLLY

It sure was, metal head.

NATALIE

We can shovel it as well as any man.

SUE ANN

Sure, like they say, 'there's nothing
to fear but fear itself.'

TOOTIE

Except drowning itself.

SOLDIER

Well, is anyone getting in the truck,
or not?

GARRETT

I think Mr. Bradley should. He's
got to get his ankle x-rayed.

BRADLEY

I can't leave! I'm the only one
standing between these girls and
the flood.

