

HARD CANDY

"I stayed the summer with my aunt Denise"

Playing Age: 30/40
Drama

GEOFF

I stayed the summer with my Aunt Denise when I was a kid. Her own kids like were four and five, I was seven, I didn't want anything to do with them - the little girl, Lynn timer, loved me. Her favorite game was to jump out of her bathtub - all soaking and her fingers all pruned - and jump on me - tickling and shouting, "Prune attack! Prune Attack!"

I couldn't fight back because I'd break her arm if I really got mad. (beat). Aunt Denise walked in from gardening in the middle of a tickle attack. She saw her little girl all over me, without any clothes, my clothes all wet. She yelled "LYNNIE GET BACK IN THAT TUB AND STAY THERE. NOW!"

Then she looked at me.

(Beat). "Get your clothes off" - she grabbed my wrist and dragged me to the kitchen, she switched on the front burner of the stove, she picked me up, the burner redhot under me. Dirt from her garden on my skin. "I could throw your ass down on that burner. Would that be fun?" She held me nearly a minute. I could feel her arms getting tired. I cried and cried, the tears sizzled when they hit the burner.

(Beat). She put me down.

"If I catch you with Lynn timer like that ever again." (Beat)

My mom came and got me the next day to pick me up.

I never talked to Aunt Denise again.