

MY FIRST NIGHT

A Ceremony

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This ceremony may be performed following a Bethel Meeting, Grand Visit or any other appropriate occasion.

Props:

A blanket and a pillow, to be used as a bed, stuffed animals may be placed around the bed. The bed should be placed under a light. During a portion of the ceremony, all other lights may be turned out or dimmed for effect.

A Chair, and a Bethel Robe, preferably with a purple cord.

A Telephone, placed on the floor by the chair.

A folder with several papers and a Ritual in it.

Participants:

A Daughter (Jennifer), preferably 10 or 12 years old, dressed in pajamas.

A Father and Mother (do not have to be the Daughters real parents)

A Narrator, (a Daughter or an Adult)

Narrator: The scene you are about to see takes place in the bedroom of a young girl who has just been initiated into Job's Daughters.

The ceremony begins with the entrance of the Daughter and her parents, (the lights are turned on). They walk up to the bed. The mother drapes the Robe on the chair and the father places the folder on the seat of the chair.

Mother: Time for bed Jen, its getting late, and you have school tomorrow.

Jennifer: I know and I am very tired (she yawns). What time is it anyway?

Father: Ten O'clock, way past your bedtime. Give me a kiss and hop into bed.

Jennifer: Good Night Daddy (she leans over and gives her father a kiss on the cheek).

Father: I sure was proud of you tonight, you did real well. Good night, my little Jobie.

Jennifer: Thanks Daddy. (The father starts to leave, when Jennifer calls to him)
Daddy did you get my papers?

Father: They are on the chair, you can look at them tomorrow, now go to sleep. (The Father then leaves)

Jennifer: Mommy Daddy said he was proud of me But I didn't do anything I just did what they told me to

Mother: Jen, Your Father and I are very proud of you our little girl is starting to grow up. You looked so grown up standing out on the floor. A lot of people were explaining things to you and you stood there and listened carefully. You made us very proud.

Jennifer: Mommy You told me that you were a Jobie when you were younger. Were you as scared as I was. I listened to everything, I thought maybe I was going to have to take a test or something. Boy, was I glad they forgot about it.

Mother: No test Jen They were just explaining a little bit about Job's Daughters You will learn a lot more, as time goes on. And believe me, you will never regret it. And yes I was just as scared as you They told me that you could hear my knees knocking Now get into bed and try to sleep.

Jennifer: (reaches up and gives her mother a kiss, then lays down on the blanket).
Good Night Mommy.

Mother: Good night honey ... and don't forget your prayers. (The Mother leaves, and the lights go down, except for the one over the bed).

Jennifer: (she lays there for a moment, then gets up on her knees and starts to pray)

Dear God, bless mommy, daddy, grandma, my big brother Jack.
Thank you for this day.

(She stops for a moment and pauses)

I am scared. Tonight, I became a Jobie That's short for Job's Daughter.

I know it is good Job is in the Bible And we talked about him in Sunday School. But They were saying a lot of things that I don't understand.

There were a lot of people in the room, and everyone seemed to be watching me I don't know why ... the other girls were doing all the work.

All I did was walk around and say some words. I had to walk around in circles all the time, then I had to kneel ... then walk around some more This went on for a long time. Lord, I was starting to get dizzy.

Then I had to take an oath It was a long one I think I understand it It doesn't sound too hard to do But it scares me a little.

What if I make a mistake Will they throw me out?

Lord Look at this robe they gave me (as she says this, she gets the Bethel Robe and holds it up to herself) It's way too big, I am still little. They gave Mommy some instructions on how to fix it.

That didn't help Mommy looked pretty confused. She said it would be better if I could just grow into it. Lord, I have to be ready for the next meeting ... I can't grow that fast!

Then they told me I am going to be in the Choir (she puts the robe back on the chair, as she she says this) I can't sing ... you know that. Do Ra, Me, Fa, So, La Te Do. (she sings this off key). What am I going to do?

There were a lot of girls there tonight I recognized a few of them from school Everyone was real friendly and introduced themselves to me I don't remember all their names.

They said we were going roller-skating this weekend ... I like that Sometimes I go with my best friend Ellen I felt bad going without her, but then one of the girls said that I can bring her along to I liked that She is my very best friend. It would be real neat, if Ellen could be a Jobie too. I asked my dad, he said that he thinks her father is a Mason also I hope so.

They gave me a book (she reaches over to the chair, and picks up the ritual) they call it a Ritual. I hope I don't have to remember all of this. Some of the girls are real smart They had everything memorized I could never do all that.

Oh, and look at all of these papers (she picks up the folder) ... (she picks up the song card) Look at all these songs I have to memorize Do they sing them at every meeting?

(she finds a small piece of paper in the folder) I know what this is they told me I had a big sister and she gave me her phone number and said I could call her whenever I have a question.

Gee, do you think she could beat up my big brother for me sometime Just kidding.

I wonder if it is too late to call her now Excuse me Lord.

(Jennifer reaches over for the phone, and dials the number)

Missy ... I don't know if you remember me, but my name is Jennifer I became a Jobie tonight.

Oh, you do remember me That great.

Can I ask you a question Since I am in the Choir do I have to sing all those songs myself? I Don't oh thank you I was worried. Do I have to have that whole book memorized by the next meeting? I Don't awesome.

Missy My mom doesn't do much sewing What am I going to do Oh your mom will help her Wow, she will feel better.

Thanks Missy ... I was worried. See you this weekend Good Bye.
(she hangs up the phone, and gets back into bed and starts to pray again)

Lord, its me again, Jen I think everything is going to be okay. Thanks for listening to me. Amen.

Mother: Jen are you asleep yet?

Jennifer: (she pulls the blanket over her) Yes I am. (The lights go out for a couple of moments. Then all are turned on).

Narrator: Let me introduce the players.

The father was played by _____

The mother was played by _____

Jennifer was played by _____

This ends the ceremony.