

The Johnny

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**Music by
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The Johnny

Cast of Characters

Johnny Zabka

Every blonde jock and bully you ever saw in an '80s movie.

Lanie Griffith

The smart and sweet girl-next-door.

Ruby Kamen

The new student at school, an aspiring tap dancer.

Bobby Kove

Johnny's sidekick, intensely devoted to Johnny.

Kyle Weaver

The plucky and slightly scrawny young underdog.

Mr. MacKowen

Seamus MacKowen, the former racquetball champion of Ireland.

Jade

A former flame of Mr. MacKowen.

Krystal (Chorus)

A hot but mildly trashy student at Cape's Bluff High.

Principal (Chorus)

The principal of Cape's Bluff High School.

Male Student (Chorus)

A male student at Cape's Bluff High school.

Female Student (Chorus)

A female student at Cape's Bluff High school.

Mom (Chorus)

Johnny's mother.

Dad (Chorus)

Johnny's father.

Announcer (Chorus)

Cape's Bluff's announcer for racquetball tournaments.

Players #1 & 2 (Chorus)

Racquetball players.

Jonathan (Chorus)

The coach of Cape's Bluff High School's racquetball team.

Cheerleader (Chorus)

A cheerleader for Cape's Bluff High.

Awesome Junior (Chorus)

An awesome junior at Cape's Bluff High.

Cool Kids (Chorus)

Cool students at Cape's Bluff High.

Uncool Kids (Chorus)

Uncool students at Cape's Bluff High.

MUSICAL SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT I

SCENE 1: The Courtyard of Cape's Bluff High School
"The Johnny".....Johnny, Bobby & Company
SCENE 2: Cape's Bluff High School Parking Lot
SCENE 3: Johnny's Home
SCENE 4: A High School Gym
"The Tournament".....Johnny, Bobby, Kyle & Company
SCENE 5: Johnny's Home
"You've Disappointed Us".....Mom, Dad & Jonathan
SCENE 6: Lawrence Park
SCENE 7: Outside Mr. MacKowen's Home
"Win Vicariously".....Mr. MacKowen
SCENE 8: Bobby's Home
"You Can Set The Tone".....Bobby, Kyle & Company
SCENE 9: Lawrence Park
SCENE 10: Lanie's Room
"It's Not Love".....Lanie & Johnny
SCENE 11: Outside Mr. MacKowen's Home
SCENE 12: Lawrence Park
SCENE 13: Outside Mr. MacKowen's Home/The Locker Room of a High School Gym/A High School Gym
"Training Only Takes You So Far".....Johnny, Mr. MacKowen & Bobby

ACT II

SCENE 1: A High School Gym
"En'tracte/It's Not My Fault".....Johnny
SCENE 2: A Bar in Cape's Bluff
SCENE 3: Ali Mills Dance Studio
"Tapping's No Fun".....Ruby & Johnny
SCENE 4: A Street in Cape's Bluff
SCENE 5: A Bar in Cape's Bluff
"It's Not Love (Reprise)".....Jade & Mr. Mackowen
SCENE 6: Lawrence Park
"You Can't Fall in Love (and Play Sports)....Mr. Mackowen & Johnny
SCENE 7: Outside of a Bar in Cape's Bluff
"You Don't Know Johnny At All".....Bobby & Ruby
SCENE 8: Cape's Bluff High School Locker Room
SCENE 9: Cape's Bluff High School Theatorium
"Tapped For Greatness"Ruby & Johnny
"Breakin' All The Rules".....Kyle & Chorus
"The Johnny (Reprise)".....Company

Act I

The curtain opens on the courtyard of Cape's Bluff High School in Southern California. There is a large gathering of STUDENTS, ready for a pep rally. RUBY, a new student, and smart, girl-next-door LANIE, enter downstage together.

LANIE

So that concludes our little tour of Cape's Bluff High. You think you're all set for your first day?

RUBY

I hope so. Just one more question, Lanie?

LANIE

Sure.

RUBY

What's all this here?

LANIE

Oh. Unfortunately, it's a pep rally. The All County Tournament's tomorrow and, of course, here everything academic bows to anything athletic. Just like any high school. You said you were a debater, right?

RUBY

Dancer, actually.

LANIE

Great. Just great. We always do this when The Johnny is about to win something.

RUBY

The what?

LANIE

At Cape's Bluff High, we call the most popular kid in the senior class, "The Johnny," no matter what his real name is.

RUBY

What's this one's name?

LANIE

Johnny. It's a fairly recent tradition. Oh, look. The dog and pony show's about to begin.

(STUDENTS cheer as the PRINCIPAL enters.)

PRINCIPAL

2

Cape's Bluff Wolverines, you all know why we're here. Let's hear it for your next tournament champion, Johnny Zabka!

(JOHNNY enters, and the place goes bananas.)

MALE STUDENT

Good luck at the big tournament tomorrow, Johnny!

BOBBY

You're gonna do great, Johnny!

FEMALE STUDENT

You're the best, Johnny!

"THE JOHNNY"

JOHNNY (SUNG)

TAKE ONE LOOK AT ME
AND YOU KNOW JUST WHAT YOU'LL FIND
THERE'S A GUY LIKE ME IN EVERY HIGH SCHOOL
AND WE'RE ALL ONE OF A KIND

CAPTAIN OF EVERY TEAM
PRESIDENT OF THE CLASS
SUNKISSED BLONDE HAIR, BABY BLUE EYES
ALL YOU LOSERS CAN KISS MY ASS
BECAUSE

I KNOW THAT YOU SAY THAT YOU HATE ME

STUDENTS (SUNG)

YOU HATE HIM.

JOHNNY (SUNG)

JUST 'CAUSE YOU WANT TO BE ME.

STUDENTS (SUNG)

YOU BE HIM.

JOHNNY (SUNG)

BECAUSE YOU HATE YOURSELVES
AND YOU WANT TO LOVE YOURSELVES.
SO BY HATING ME, YOU'RE LOVING ME.

STUDENTS

WHAT TWISTED SELF-ESTEEM.

JOHNNY (SUNG)

YES, YOU'RE LOVING
THE JOHNNY

STUDENTS (SUNG)

THE JOHNNY.

JOHNNY (SUNG)

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DON'T HAVE TO TRY, I JUST WIN
THAT'S RIGHT, I'M JOHNNY.

STUDENTS (SUNG)

THE JOHNNY.

JOHNNY (SUNG)

I'M THE YANG TO FAILURE'S YIN.

JOHNNY (SUNG)

MY LIFE IS SO GREAT AND I CAN'T
EVER SEE THAT CHANGING
'CAUSE WHEN YOU'RE THE JOHNNY

STUDENTS (SUNG)

AHH
AHH
AHH

STUDENTS (SUNG)

THE JOHNNY

JOHNNY (SUNG)

YOU KNOW THAT YOU'RE THE KING
OF HIGH SCHOOL

(LANIE steps out and speaks to everyone.)

LANIE (SPOKEN)

I can't believe we're doing this for just one person!
Johnny's not the only one competing tomorrow.

BOBBY (SPOKEN)

We know, Lanie. I am too, but you don't see me making a fuss
about it.

LANIE (SPOKEN)

What about Kyle Weaver?

BOBBY (SPOKEN)

That little twerp?? You must be joking. He'll never beat a
guy as rad as Johnny!!

PRINCIPAL (SPOKEN)

Lanie, can we get on with the pep rally, please.

JOHNNY (SUNG)

I CAN ACT LIKE AN ASSHOLE
AND STILL EVERYONE IS MY FRIEND
I HAD SEX AT THIRTEEN
AND EVERY NIGHT SINCE THEN

MY FAMILY IS FILTHY RICH
THEY GOT ME A NEW CAR
EVERY COLLEGE IS LOOKING AT ME
THEY WANNA MAKE ME A STAR
I KNOW THAT YOU THINK I'M JUST LUCKY

JUST LUCKY STUDENTS (SUNG)

AND THAT I DON'T DESERVE IT JOHNNY (SUNG)

DESERVE IT STUDENTS (SUNG)

BUT I'LL TAKE IT ALL AND YOUR GIRLFRIEND TOO JOHNNY (SUNG)

(Dance break.)

YEAH, HE NAILED HER. STUDENTS (SUNG)

SHE'S NOW WITH THE JOHNNY JOHNNY (SUNG)

THE JOHNNY STUDENTS (SUNG)

I CANT IMAGINE SECOND PLACE I'M JOHNNY JOHNNY (SUNG)

THE JOHNNY STUDENTS (SUNG)

I'LL KNEECAP YOU TO WIN THE RACE. JOHNNY (SUNG)

I COULD KILL A GUY AND GET OFF WITH A WARNING 'CAUSE WHEN YOU'RE THE JOHNNY JOHNNY (SUNG) STUDENTS (SUNG) AHH AHH AHH

THE JOHNNY STUDENTS

YOU KNOW THAT YOU'RE THE KING OF HIGH SCHOOL IN CAPE'S BLUFF, CALIFORNIA. JOHNNY (SUNG)

You ready to do some damage, J-Man? BOBBY (SPOKEN)

Absolutely, Bobby Boy. I bet if I weren't in the tournament, JOHNNY (SPOKEN)

you'd win it for sure.

BOBBY (SUNG)

**SOME THINK IT WOULDN'T BE EASY
ALWAYS BEING SECOND PLACE
BUT WHEN YOU'RE WITH THE JOHNNY
IT'S THE LIFE YOU MUST EMBRACE.**

**ALL THE GIRLS SWOON FOR HIM
THERE'S NOTHING I WOULDN'T DO FOR HIM
THANK GOD I'VE LEARNED TO REPRESS**

BOBBY (SUNG)

**WHAT I FEEL
FOR THE JOHNNY.**

STUDENTS (SUNG)

WHAT HE FEELS

STUDENTS (SUNG)

THE JOHNNY

BOBBY (SUNG)

OR IT'D ALL CAUSE A GREAT BIG MESS.

RUBY (SPOKEN)

Who's this Kyle Weaver?

LANIE (SPOKEN)

Kyle was a new kid this year and he and I became really good friends. Kyle and Johnny got into it a few times, and they're going to settle it at the tournament tomorrow. Plus, I think Kyle's gonna ask me out soon.

RUBY (SPOKEN)

That's sweet. You think Kyle's gonna beat Johnny?

LANIE (SPOKEN)

No way.

JOHNNY (SUNG)

I'VE GOT A NEW CHANCE TOMORROW

STUDENTS (SUNG)

TOMORROW

JOHNNY (SUNG)

TO PROVE HOW GREAT I AM

STUDENTS (SUNG)

GREAT HE AM

JOHNNY (SUNG)

**THERE'S SOME SCRAWNY KID
BUT WHO REALLY CARES?**

STUDENTS (SUNG)
WHEN DO UNDERDOGS EVER WIN?

JOHNNY (SUNG)
NOT AGAINST
THE JOHNNY

STUDENTS (SUNG)
THE JOHNNY

JOHNNY (SUNG)
NO WAY IN HELL I'LL EVER LOSE
YOU KNOW I'M JOHNNY

STUDENTS (SUNG)
THE JOHNNY

JOHNNY (SUNG)
THE ONE THE LADIES NEVER REFUSE.

JOHNNY (SUNG) THE TOURNAMENT'S WHERE MY LATEST TRIUMPH WILL RING 'CAUSE WHEN YOU'RE THE JOHNNY	STUDENTS (SUNG) AHH DING-DONG
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STUDENTS (SUNG)
THE JOHNNY

JOHNNY (SUNG)
YOU KNOW THAT YOU'RE THE KING
OF HIGH SCHOOL
IN CAPE'S BLUFF,
CALIFORNIA.
AND IT WON'T CHANGE
EVER
YOU'RE SURE
IT'S SO GOOD TO BE ME
YES, YOU'RE LOVING THE JOHNNY

STUDENTS (SUNG)
JOHNNY.

JOHNNY (SUNG)
YEAH!

(The schoolbell rings and ALL disperse.)

RUBY
Thanks for the introductions, Lanie.

LANIE
Sure, Ruby, see you around. Hey Kyle, wait up!

(SHE runs over to downstage left

(CONT'D)

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and catches up with Kyle. JOHNNY
and BOBBY walk towards the parking
lot together. RUBY approaches them.)

RUBY

You're Johnny, right? I'm a new student here, I'm--

BOBBY

Why are you talking to Johnny? He's in tournament mode. You
don't want him to lose, do you?

RUBY

No.

BOBBY

Yeah, like you could make Johnny lose. Keep walking, new
kid.

(SHE walks away as THEY laugh.)

JOHNNY

You know that girl?

BOBBY

No, but I don't like her. Hey, Johnny, you wanna get some
last minute practice in tonight?

JOHNNY

Thanks, but I promised Krystal we'd spend a little time
together.

(KRYSTAL, a very hot but mildly trashy
girl, enters and plants herself on
Johnny's side, kissing him.)

BOBBY

(A little annoyed)

Hi, Krystal.

(SHE gives BOBBY a little wave.)

BOBBY (CONT'D)

You think Weaver's looking for trouble?

JOHNNY

(Breaking off from Krystal)

I don't think he makes it out of the first round.

BOBBY

I mean, by leaning on your car like that.

JOHNNY

What??

(JOHNNY wheels around and sees Kyle and Lanie talking. HE goes to storm off, but BOBBY grabs Johnny by the shoulder.)

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BOBBY

Save it for the tournament. He's not worth it, Johnny.

JOHNNY

Ease up. We're just gonna talk.

(BOBBY lowers his hands. KYLE and LANIE are laughing. JOHNNY goes and pulls Kyle's shoulder back and spins him around.)

KYLE

What's your problem, Johnny?

JOHNNY

You think you can just lean on a man's car like that?

KYLE

Well, it's my car.

JOHNNY

What? Bobby, it's not my--

BOBBY

(Calling from a ways off)

Yeah, I just realized that, sorry.

JOHNNY

Our cars don't look anything alike.

BOBBY

Save it for the tournament. He's not worth it, Johnny.

LANIE

Looks like you're getting nervous for the tournament.

JOHNNY

I've never been nervous about anything in my life, nerd herder. Get in the car, Krystal.

(SHE shrugs and exits.)

KYLE

Can't we put aside our differences, shake hands, and just hope for a good tournament tomorrow?

(HE puts out his hand.)

BOBBY

Save it for the tournament. He's not worth--

JOHNNY
He was just gonna shake my hand, Bobby.

BOBBY
Sorry. I really need glasses, huh?

KYLE
What do you say, Johnny?

(JOHNNY slaps Kyle's hand away.)

JOHNNY
I don't shake hands with losers.

KYLE
Well, I do. So I guess we'll shake after I beat you at the All County Tournament.

JOHNNY
What did you just say?

LANIE
Nice one, Kyle!

JOHNNY
(Pushing him)
You're toast, nerd.

BOBBY
(Calling from where HE's standing)
He's not worth it, Johnny.

JOHNNY
I know, Bobby. Just get in the car, Krystal.

LANIE
I'm not Krystal.

KYLE
And Krystal's still in your car.

JOHNNY
Shut up, dweeb.
(To Kyle)
Listen--

BOBBY
Save it for the tournament. He's not worth--

JOHNNY
God, I know, Bobby!

LANIE
Look's like somebody's getting rattled.

Krystal, just get--

LANIE

Still not Krystal. And she's ...

KYLE

Yeah, she hasn't left your car.

JOHNNY

Look, tomorrow, you're dead, dweeb!

(JOHNNY storms off. KYLE and LANIE walks away, leaving BOBBY alone. A beat, then)

BOBBY

He's not worth it, Johnny. He's not.

(Lights down on him and up on a split stage. On one side are KYLE and LANIE outside Mr. M's house. On the other are JOHNNY and KRYSTAL at Johnny's house. JOHNNY and KRYSTAL are making out.)

LANIE

One last training session with Mr. M, huh?

KYLE

Maybe he's gonna show me how to be a good loser.

LANIE

What are you talking about, Kyle? The way you stood up to Johnny today, you've already won.

KYLE

Yeah, I don't know.

LANIE

I do. I'll be there cheering you on when you win it all.

KYLE

Thanks, Lanie. For everything. Wish me luck.

(SHE leans in and gives him a soft kiss.)

KYLE (CONT'D)

What was that for?

LANIE

Luck. See you tomorrow.

(THEY part ways and exit. Lights down on

(CONT'D)

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them. Johnny's MOM enters and puts two sodas down in front of Johnny and Krystal.)

MOM

Johnny? Excuse me, Johnny?

(JOHNNY and KRYSTAL break off.)

JOHNNY

What is it, Mom?

MOM

I brought you two some sodas and I wanted to see if you needed anything else.

JOHNNY

A little privacy would be nice.

(Johnny's DAD enters.)

DAD

Johnny, you think you should be up so late the night before a tournament?

JOHNNY

You're right, Dad, maybe if I stay up all night having sex with my girlfriend I won't have the energy to beat everybody else at the tournament. Go home, Krystal.

(SHE gets up sheepishly. DAD and JOHNNY laugh.)

DAD

Good one, son.

JOHNNY

Yeah, like I'll really lose tomorrow. Or ever.

(KRYSTAL gets the joke and laughs. SHE sits back down.)

MOM

Are you excited for the tournament, honey?

JOHNNY

Not really, Mom. Just another one in a thousand tournaments. As always, it'll be a snap.

(And with that snap, HE unhooks Krystal's bra. SHE pulls it out through her sleeve. EVERYONE applauds.)

That's my boy!

MOM

So talented!

JOHNNY

(Getting up)

All right, I actually am getting tired now. Krystal, you can find a way home, right?

(KRYSTAL shrugs and gets up and goes.)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

See you at the tournament tomorrow.

(Lights down on them and up on an ANNOUNCER with a microphone in a high school gym.)

ANNOUNCER

Welcome, ladies and gentlemen, to the Southern California NHSRPA All-County Tournament. We have a lot of great young athletes here today and I'm sure you're all ready to see this sport the way it was meant to be played. So without any further ado, let's play some ... racquetball!!

(Cheers from the crowd. PLAYER #1 steps forward, racquet in hand.)

"THE TOURNAMENT"**PLAYER #1 (SUNG)**

**THE TOURNAMENT IS MY PLACE TO SHINE
TO DRINK FROM THE CUP OF VICTORY
TO TASTE ITS SWEET-ASS WINE
IT'S DOWN TO THE LAST POINT
IT'S JUST HE AND I
I GOTTA SEIZE THIS ONE MOMENT
CAN'T LET IT PASS ME BY**

(PLAYER #2 steps forward, like #1.)

PLAYER #2 (SUNG)

**THE TOURNAMENT IS MY CHANCE TO SEE
THE GARLANDS OF SPLENDOR ATOP MY HEAD
TO MAKE MY PARENTS PROUD OF ME
IF I HIT IT HARD ENOUGH
IF I USE THE RIGHT SPIN
MY WHOLE LIFE WILL HAVE A POINT
I KNOW THAT I CAN WIN**

PLAYER #1 (SUNG)**THE TOURNAMENT**

PLAYER #2 (SUNG)

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THE TOURNAMENT

PLAYER #1 (SUNG)

THE TOURNAMENT

PLAYER #2 (SUNG)

THE TOURNAMENT

PLAYERS #1 & #2 (SUNG)

THE ALL COUNTY TOURNAMENT
HERE GOES.

(Lights up on the whole stage.
JOHNNY is next to PLAYER #2 and
KYLE is next to PLAYER #1.)

ANNOUNCER (SPOKEN, OFF)

Winner, Kyle Weaver.

(A pause, then)

Winner, Johnny Zabka.

(The PLAYERS and JOHNNY and KYLE exit.
BOBBY and JONATHAN, the angry coach, enter.)

BOBBY (SUNG)

GOTTA BE THE BEST
GOTTA PLAY TOUGH
GOTTA RULE THE COURT WITH
AUTHORITY

JONATHAN (SUNG)

GOTTA COACH 'EM UP
GOTTA YELL A LOT
JUST TO OVERCOME MY
INSECURITY

BOBBY (SUNG)

I KNOW JOHNNY WILL WIN IT ALL
BUT I'M GOING FOR A STRONG SECOND PLACE

JONATHAN (SUNG)

AND IF YOU DON'T WIN
YOU'LL BRING YOUR FAMILY GREAT DISGRACE.

BOBBY (SUNG)

I COULD TRY THE TALLAHASSEE SPIN.

JONATHAN (SUNG)

HURRY SO THAT JOHNNY CAN WIN.

BOBBY (SUNG)

THE TOURNAMENT

THE TOURNAMENT

BOBBY & JONATHAN (SUNG)

THE ALL COUNTY TOURNAMENT

ANNOUNCER (SPOKEN, OFF)

Winner, Bobby Kove.

BOBBY (SUNG)

IS MINE.

'TIL I LOSE TO JOHNNY.

(KYLE enters.)

KYLE (SUNG)

**ACE THAT SERVE
HIT THE DRIVE SERVICE ZONE
IT'S JUST YOU
AND THE OTHER GUY
BUT BASICALLY JUST YOU ALONE.**

ANNOUNCER (SPOKEN, OFF)

Winner, Kyle Weaver.

(KYLE exits.)

JONATHAN (SPOKEN)

Kove, you're up against Weaver.

BOBBY (SPOKEN)

I'm ready to take him out, Coach.

JONATHAN (SPOKEN)

Destroy him.

BOBBY (SPOKEN)

I'll beat that spaz easily.

JONATHAN (SPOKEN)

I don't want you to win the match. I want you to hurt him.
Incapacitate him. Am I understood?

BOBBY (SPOKEN)

But coach ... it's racquetball. What exactly am I supposed
to do?

JONATHAN (SPOKEN)

Am I understood?

BOBBY (SPOKEN)

Not really, no.

Good.

(JONATHAN exits. KYLE enters. HE and BOBBY ready for the match. KYLE freezes.)

BOBBY (SUNG)

**I WANTED TO GO FURTHER
BUT MY DUTY TO JOHNNY CALLS
THE TOURNAMENT
THE TOURNAMENT
THE ALL COUNTY TOURNAMENT
HERE'S WHERE THE AXE FALLS.**

(THEY unfreeze. HE goes to serve and BOBBY throws his racquet at Kyle's knee. KYLE goes down.)

ANNOUNCER (SPOKEN, OFF)

Disqualification, Bobby Kove.

BOBBY (SPOKEN)

I did it for you, Johnny! For you, Johnny!!

(JOHNNY enters.)

JOHNNY (SPOKEN)

Sorry, I was in the locker room. What did I miss?

(BOBBY walks out. The ANNOUNCER enters.)

ANNOUNCER (SUNG)

**WE DIDN'T THINK KYLE WOULD MAKE IT.
BUT IT TURNS OUT HE'S OKAY.
HE'S AGAINST JOHNNY IN THE FINALS
IT'S ALL TIED UP, IT'S SUDDEN DEATH**

(JOHNNY & KYLE enter from opposite sides.)

JOHNNY (SUNG)

THE TOURNAMENT

KYLE (SUNG)

THE TOURNAMENT

JOHNNY & KYLE (SUNG)

**THE ALL COUNTY TOURNAMENT.
YOU KNEW IT WOULD END THIS WAY.**

ANNOUNCER (SPOKEN, OFF)

Final point of the tournament. Ready? Go!

(KYLE goes to serve and all but JOHNNY freeze.)

JUST ONE IN A THOUSAND TOURNAMENTS
AND THE WINNER IS ...

(THEY unfreeze. KYLE serves and JOHNNY returns. KYLE jumps, spins in the air and kills the ball. JOHNNY cannot return it. HE falls down.)

ANNOUNCER (OFF)

Kyle! Winner, Kyle Weaver!!

JOHNNY & KYLE

What?!?

(Pandemonium. FANS rush Kyle. LANIE and MR. MACKOWEN, Kyle's coach embrace him. JOHNNY is left all alone until KRYSTAL approaches.)

JOHNNY

Krystal, I ... I think I lost.

(KRYSTAL looks shocked. KYLE and his entourage come over to Johnny.)

KYLE

Good match, Johnny.

(KYLE puts out his hand to JOHNNY. JOHNNY slaps it away. KRYSTAL looks at Kyle, then at Johnny, then at Kyle. SHE pushes Lanie out of the way and makes out with Kyle. LANIE is dismayed.)