

CONFIRMATION

Written by

SARA GUNN

CHARACTERS

- SARAH 16. Daughter, Episcopal confirmand, Sunday schooler, acolyte, member of the church band.
- ROSE 56. Mother to Sarah and David, Sunday school teacher, former Catholic.
- DAVID 15. Son, Devout Atheist, Sunday schooler.
- RUTH 16. Daughter, Episcopal Confirmand, Sunday schooler.
- ANN 62. Pastor, member of church band.
- SHANNON 45. Mother to Ruth, organ player, member of church band.
- GAIL 48. Vestry member, collect counter, prayer list organizer, member of the church band.
- HENRY VIII 528. Tudor, former king, Supreme Head of the Church of England, possibly syphilitic.

SETTING

St. Paul's, an Episcopal church somewhere in upstate New York, and the Walsh's home, a suburban home down the street.

TIME

The two last weeks of Lent leading up to Easter Vigil and Confirmation.

ACT 1

SCENE 1- MEET THE WALSH'S

AT RISE:

A suburban home. On one side, a small kitchen. On the other side, an even smaller bedroom. The kitchen has old wooden cabinets and a table piled with paperwork, homework, arts and crafts. The sink is full of dishes.

The bedroom is SARAH's, she is sitting on a neatly made bed. Art prints and band posters unsuccessfully cover up the loud pink walls. She's looking through a journaling bible in her hands, reading one page, flipping to another, jotting something down.

ROSE, her mother, comes into the kitchen while putting on her jacket.

ROSE

(yelling to Sarah)

Ok! It's time to go!

Sarah gets up with her journaling bible and walks into the kitchen,

ROSE (CONT'D)

Are you ready?

(Sarah looks at her.)

What am I saying of course you are.

(Calling up the stairs.)

David! You better be down here in one minute!

(to Sarah)

I am going to kill your brother.

SARAH

On the Lords day?

Rose laughs an exhausted laugh. She sees the dishes in the sink.

ROSE

How hard is it for people to do dishes in this house?

SARAH

I think that's all Dad.

ROSE

Of course it is.

(Yelling back up the stairs.)

We're walking now! If you aren't here in ten, you'll be in real trouble mister!

SARAH

He takes longer when you yell at him.

ROSE

He takes forever no matter what.  
How's the speech going?  
I saw you looking at your journaling bible.

SARAH

(putting the journaling bible  
down on the table)

Oh, uh. Its good.

ROSE

Ok well let me know if you want me to read it ahead of time.  
I'm sure you'll do great though, sweetie.

DAVID comes running down the stairs.

DAVID

Oh my God, I was coming!

ROSE

Come on! Today is a big day, Sarah has band practice.  
And please don't say the Lord's name in vain.

David puts on his shoes.

DAVID

(sarcastic)

Oh that's right. Sarah, I am so sorry.  
I thought you being an altar girl was bad--

ROSE

*David*

SARAH

It's fine. Shannon seems really excited about it.

ROSE

I think it'll be fun!  
It'll be so much fun to see you perform at your own  
confirmation.

DAVID

So much fun!

ROSE

(holding up his jacket)  
That'll be you in just a year, young man.

DAVID

I don't know, I could die before then.

ROSE

Don't say that, you know how much it upsets me.  
And you used to like going to church, you know. And you loved  
going to church camp.

DAVID

Maybe before my brain fully developed.  
But now,

(dramatic step forward)  
as a devout atheist-

SARAH

Ooooooh boy here we go.

DAVID

What?  
I have to hear about your beliefs you should have to hear  
about mine

SARAH

Your brain isn't even fully developed yet, idiot

DAVID

Mom! Did you hear what she just called me?

ROSE

I didn't hear anything, we need to go.

(yelling up the stairs again)  
Ok John, were leaving for church! See you later!

DAVID

How come Dad never has to go with us?

ROSE

I can't even get that man to buy his own underwear. Church  
might be asking him too much.

They leave the house for St.Paul's.

After they're gone, HENRY VIII, former king of England, comes into the kitchen. He's dressed in full period clothes. He notices the audience.

HENRY

Oh. Hi. I'm not the Dad. That'd be weird. You'd be like "oh no this is a story about a family who's Dad loves role playing" Don't worry. This isn't that.

He starts rummaging through the cabinets and grabs a bag of chips. He turns and spots Sarah's journaling bible that she left on the table. He flips through it while shoving his face full of chips. He pockets it and exits.

Sarah re-enters, looking for her journaling bible on the table.

ROSE (O.S.)

Do you see it, honey?

SARAH

No!  
I swear it was right here.

ROSE (O.S.)

Just leave it, we don't have time.

SARAH

But--  
Fine.

She exits.

## SCENE 2 - WELCOME TO ST PAUL'S

The Walsh's have arrived at St.Paul's Episcopal church. They enter a small classroom in the basement. We can faintly hear the church service happening upstairs. On the walls are crucifixes and posters that say things like "Praise the Lord!" with cute animals on them. A drum set sits in the corner. RUTH is already there, sitting in a small circle of chairs.

RUTH

Hello, Walsh family!

ROSE

Hi Ruth.  
Sorry we're late

RUTH

Oh, no worries, I've been in such a good mood since I got back from the Conference.

ROSE

Oh! How was the conference?

RUTH

Oh, the conference was just wonderful, Mrs. Walsh.

DAVID

We need to stop saying conference/

RUTH

/There were Episcopal kids from all over the country!  
Its so nice to be around like-minded people who are so full of faith.

(to SARAH and DAVID)

You two really should have gone!

DAVID

Uhuh

ROSE

Oh, I actually really wanted Sarah to go, but she couldn't because--  
Actually I don't know why she didn't go.  
Sarah why didn't you go?

SARAH

I was getting ready for band practice/

RUTH

/Oh that's right! I'm so totally jealous!  
At the conference there were so many fun songs. We would take a song we knew and make it about Jesus!  
I wrote one-

(to the tune of "The Candyman  
Can")

WHO CAN WALK ON WATER  
AND TURN IT INTO WINE  
GET UP ON THE CRUCIFIX, CAUSE FOR YOUR SINS HELL DIE.  
THE SON OF GOD CAN  
THE SON OF GOD CAN  
WHO CAN/

DAVID

/Wow that sounds really great! Sorry we missed it.



RUTH

I don't want to brag but my songs were definitely the best. Its not really a fair competition, I had so much music in the house growing up.

Beat. Rose sits and pulls lesson plans out of her bag.

ROSE

Well then! Lets get right to it. Two weeks till Easter and confirmation! I feel like I haven't done enough to prepare you two.

She shuffles papers.

ROSE (CONT'D)

I think its important for confirmands to understand the history of the Episcopal Church. So I thought we could talk about how the church got started. Does anyone know?

SARAH

There were like a bunch of protestants who came to America for religious freedom?

ROSE

Not really, the church came to America along with British colonialism.

RUTH

That was a good guess though, Sarah. It's usually that.

ROSE

But the Episcopal church traces back further than that. Before the Episcopalians became the independent church it is now, they were.... That's right! The Anglicans in England! And the Church of England was founded by Henry VIII.

DAVID

The dude who murdered all of his wives?

ROSE

Well, he didn't murder *all* of his wives. He actually partly founded the church because the Pope wouldn't acknowledge the annulment of his marriage.

RUTH

Annulment?

ROSE

Yeah, the Catholics don't allow divorces. So if you separated from your wife, you couldn't get remarried unless it was annulled. Which is like saying the marriage never happened.

SARAH

How can you say a marriage never happened?

RUTH

(Feeling smart)

By annulling it-

SARAH

No I get that,  
But it feels like they just took divorce and called it something else. The marriage happened whether you say it did or not.

ROSE

Well you can disagree, but that's the way it is. Anyway. Henry VIII was angry he couldn't annul his marriage, so he stripped all religious leaders in England of their power and declared himself the Supreme Head of the Church of England. And then he divorced his first wife, Catherine.

DAVID

What was wrong with her?

RUTH

Did he fall in love with someone else?

ROSE

Not exactly.  
Catherine wouldn't produce him a male heir

DAVID

Isn't that not even how it works?

SARAH

Men determine the sex of a child/

ROSE

/They didn't know that back then. Okay?

SARAH

Didn't he beheaded his next wife-

ROSE

You know, this wasn't really the point of the lesson

DAVID

What was the point?

ROSE

To learn about and appreciate the origins of the Episcopal Church

(beat)

(MORE)

ROSE (CONT'D)

Ok I'll admit there are flaws with it. But historians believed he was really a genuinely religious man.

SARAH

Which is why he beheaded his wife...

ROSE

Ok fine! He wasn't a cool guy. But his break from the Catholic church led to the creation of the Episcopal Church, which is one of the most accepting and liberal of the protestant sects. And we should appreciate that for what it is.

RUTH

Yeah, Mrs. Walsh is right. Let's take a moment to appreciate that for what it is!

Small pause

DAVID

Ok. I think that's enough appreciation.

ROSE

The Episcopal church allows questioning and interpretation, which we're doing right now. If this were a Catholic church, you'd get told the rules and you would be discouraged to ask why. And as a former catholic, I can tell you guys this is much better.

RUTH

You were Catholic, Mrs. Walsh?

ROSE

Yes. I converted when these two were little.

DAVID

Do you ever worry that the Catholics have it right? And that by converting you've damned yourself to hell and us by extension?

ROSE

No, David.

SARAH

In that case, we'll all get to hang out in hell.

ROSE

That's right.

DAVID

I don't think you get to "hang out" in hell.

RUTH

I don't want to go to hell--

ROSE  
No, Ruth, were not going to hell.

DAVID  
You cant know that

ROSE  
I have *faith* that we are not going to hell.

RUTH  
Well that's good.

DAVID  
But it means nothing.

ROSE  
Anyway. Confirmation is two weeks out and we only have one more meeting till then. So for next week, I want you two to focus on a person from the Bible and use their lessons to inform your confirmation speech. Use your journaling bibles to help you.

RUTH  
At the conference, everyone has their own Bible or some sort of prayer journal. We all decorated ours together!

She holds up her journal covered in  
glitter and stickers.

ROSE  
Oh, wow that's great. Sarah, you should decorate yours.

RUTH  
Where is yours Sarah?

SARAH  
I couldn't find it.

ROSE  
It's so unlike you to lose something.

RUTH  
(beat)  
Well, I already know who I'm going to focus on!

(Beat. No one shows interest.)  
In case anyone was wondering, I'm going to do the Prophet Ruth!

DAVID  
We weren't.

ROSE

That sounds exciting.

RUTH

It is! Good class today Mrs. Walsh! See you upstairs.

ROSE

Thanks, Ruth.

Ruth exits.

ROSE (CONT'D)

David I'm taking away your gaming systems for a week.

DAVID

What! That's totally un/fair

ROSE

/I don't want to hear it. Your behavior today was unacceptable. And you never gave up anything for Lent as it is.

DAVID

Actually mom, Lent is *supposed* to be a time of *personal* sacrifice, how am I supposed to/

ROSE

/Noooo. I don't want to hear whatever smart aleck thing you feel like you need to say.

David has a mini temper tantrum and storms out.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Save us a seat at the pew!

(To Sarah)

He is really on it today.

SARAH

That's what you get for making him come here after he came out as an atheist.

ROSE

(joking)

You're right I should be more respectful of his religious orientation.

Thank goodness you're not like that.

SARAH

Yeah. You really couldn't handle two atheists could you.

ROSE

Absolutely not.

(She gets up and kisses Sarah  
on the head.)

But you're my little acolyte.

SARAH

Mom.

ROSE

Ok, ok.

Lets go get communion.

They exit.

As they do, the "band" enters. They are PASTOR ANN, SHANNON, and GAIL. Pastor Ann is at the drum set. Shannon on Keyboard. Gail on flute. They immediately start playing the music for "He is Risen". After a few beats, they stop.

SCENE 3 - MEET THE BAND

ANN

That felt pretty good!

SHANNON

Yeah, it did to me too. Gail just make sure not to come in too early on that one part--

(beat)

By the way, where is Sarah she's late.

ANN

Huh, I don't know. But I'm excited to have her.

SHANNON

Oh, I know. I think the guitar will really fill it out. I was thinking we should do "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" for confirmation.

ANN

That ones fantastic

GAIL

Do I know that one?

SHANNON

I don't know, Gail, do you?

Gail starts looking through her sheet music

ANN

And "He is Risen" is confirmed for the Easter Vigil song?

SHANNON

Well if we want to play ending processional, we kind of have to.

ANN

You're right, you're right. Ridiculous question. At least we know that one already.  
Speaking of ending processionals, Shannon, you can just play the last verse again if we're falling behind. Walking down in silence was a bit awkward.

SHANNON

Sorry Ann, I figured playing the additional verses would provide enough time.

ANN

Well, normally that would be true.  
But Terry Tauby takes nearly three heckin minutes to get the cross out of the holster ever since he got in that sling.

SHANNON

You know, I heard from Alice Newman that he lied about that

GAIL

(Gasps)

She did not say that-

SHANNON

She did!  
She said that that whole story about him getting t-boned in the roundabout was a lie-  
That he really slipped in his driveway.

ANN

How would she know a thing like that?

SHANNON

She saw him driving since the accident!  
Said the car was fine. She asked him bout it and he goes, he goes--  
"I was driving my wife's car when it happened."  
But I don't buy that.

GAIL

He asked me to put his own name on the prayer list.

SHANNON

Wow.

Ok.

You know what?

I don't like to put myself where I don't belong.

But what grown man puts himself on the prayer list for a dislocated shoulder?

ANN

No, you know what, I don't like to gossip.

If anyone asks, I don't know anything.

SHANNON

But yes, I can make sure to play an extra verse next time.

Its just so hard to see you over that old, clunky organ.

(Beat)

I wouldn't have the same problem if we could start remodeling-

GAIL

Not if people keep donating the way they are.

ANN

Now ladies--

SHANNON

Rose Walsh used to donate a considerable amount but now/

ANN

/I don't want to judge what money people have.

SHANNON

Well I heard her husband lost his job.

GAIL

Rose is married? I don't think I've ever met him

SHANNON

I think he might not be religious. Which is where David probably picked up all that/

ANN

/that's enough, Shannon.

Sarah enters the room with a guitar in one hand, a binder in the other, and a donut in her mouth.

SARAH

(muffled)

Hi, sorry I'm late



ANN

Sarah! No worries

GAIL

They have donuts at coffee hour today?

Gail starts to stand up.

SHANNON

Don't you dare, Gail.

Gail sits back down.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

Sarah, we were going to do "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" for confirmation.

SARAH

Yeah! Sounds great

She puts her binder on her stand and takes out sheet music. She straps on her guitar and rests the donut that's left on the music stand.

Rose pokes her head into the room.

ROSE

Hi everyone.

ANN

Rose! What a lovely surprise-

SHANNON

Rose!  
How was Ruth in class today?

ROSE

Oh, she was good Shannon.

(To Sarah)

Are you ok if your brother and I walk home now?

SARAH

Yeah sure.

SHANNON

Because you can always tell me if she misbehaves-

ROSE

Shannon, I promise you, she's great.

(To Sarah)

Ok, see you at home.

She exits.

ANN

Bye Rose!

(Beat)

She's great. Sarah, your mom is great.

SHANNON

Sarah, do you sing as well?

SARAH

Um, not really. I just play guitar.

ANN

Oh no worries Sarah!

SHANNON

But feel free to join in if you feel inspired  
Ok, is everyone ready?

Everyone gets into the playing  
position.

ANN

1, 2, 3, 4-

Shannon and Ann are singing. They're both good singers, but Shannon is noticeably more performative. Sarah strums softly in the corner. Gail's flute is just slightly too loud.

SHANNON AND ANN

I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT  
I WANT TO FOLLOW JESUS  
GOD SET THE STARS TO GIVE LIGHT TO THE WORLD  
THE STAR OF MY LIFE IS JESUS

SHANNON

Come on, Sarah!

Sarah starts playing a little more  
enthusiastically.

SHANNON AND ANN

IN HIM THERE IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL  
THE NIGHT AND THE DAY ARE BOTH ALIKE  
THE LAMB IS THE LIGHT OF THE CITY OF GOD  
SHINE IN MY HEART-

Shannon stops playing.

SHANNON

Wait. I'm sorry.  
Gail that flute is just a tad too loud, okay?

Gail nods her head.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

And Sarah, don't be afraid to really go for it.  
Can we start from the top of the chorus?

ANN

1,2,3,4

SHANNON AND ANN

IN HIM THERE IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL

Gail's flute is somehow louder  
THE NIGHT AND THE DAY-

SHANNON

Gail!  
Ok, listen.  
Right now you are at a mezzo forte and I really need you to  
be at a mezzo piano.

GAIL

Frankly Shannon, I'm not sure what that means.

SHANNON

Quieter!

ANN

Shannon-

SHANNON

Sorry.  
I'm sorry.  
I just. I wasn't gonna say this just yet.  
But- I was thinking you could get a flute solo for this.

ANN

I think that's an excellent choice!

SHANNON

And I just want it to be good!  
And Gail, I was gonna let you have this flute solo,  
But we just cant have that if you cant be a team player here,  
ok?

GAIL

Ok

SHANNON

Ok then.  
 Lets just start at the second verse

ANN

1, 2, 3, 4!

SHANNON AND ANN

I WANT TO SEE THE BRIGHTNESS OF GOD  
 I WANT TO LOOK AT JESUS  
 CLEAR SUN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS  
 SHINE ON MY PATH-

SHANNON

Wait! Wait.  
 I'm sorry but if we don't pick out these issues now they'll  
 never get solved.  
 Gail, you were quieter this time but you're just slightly off  
 tempo.

ANN

I thought she was fine-

SHANNON

Well, I have an ear for these types of things.  
 Gail?

She starts clapping the beat

I WANT TO SEE -  
 Come on play along  
 I WANT TO SEE THE BRIGHTNESS OF GOD  
 I WANT TO LOOK AT JESUS

As she sings, her claps get more  
 aggressive. She goes right up in front  
 of Gail and starts to clap right in her  
 face.

CLEAR SUN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS  
 SHINE ON MY PATH  
 AND SHOW ME THE WAY TO THE FATHER

Gail flinches and stops playing

ANN

Shannon  
 I think thats enough

She gets up and goes to Gail

Are you alright?

GAIL

Yeah.  
 Im sorry. I just haven't played this thing in so long-  
 I promise I could do better if I was playing Oboe.

SHANNON

Don't be silly Gail,  
This piece does not call for an Oboe part.

ANN

You're doing great.  
Why don't we stop here for today?

SHANNON

We haven't even gotten through the entirety of the song-

ANN

Yes but we have time.  
Confirmation is in two weeks

SHANNON

Two weeks! Do you hear yourself?  
We only have one more rehearsal time!

SARAH

What if we had another practice? Like the Wednesday before?

ANN

Brilliant idea, Sarah.

SHANNON

Ok, ok. But lets bring our A game next week, ok?  
Ok, Gail?

GAIL

Yeah

SHANNON

Splendid!  
Wednesday it is! See you ladies then!

She picks up the whole keyboard off the stand and carries it out of the room, clearly struggling. The three of them watch as she slowly waddles out the door. Gail sadly pulls apart her flute and puts it back in its case. She gets up.

ANN

Good job today, Gail.

GAIL

Thanks, Ann

She exits.

Sarah is putting her guitar away and finishing her donut.

ANN

You too, Sarah!

SARAH

(Slightly muffled)

Thanks Pastor Ann

ANN

Oh you know you can just call me Ann when I'm not, you know,

(She makes a preaching like  
hand gesture.)

Up on the altar.

SARAH

Um. Ok. Thanks Ann.

ANN

So. Are you excited?

SARAH

Oh, um, yeah. The song is great

ANN

No not the song! Confirmation!

SARAH

Right, confirmation.  
Yeah I'm excited.

ANN

Cool! Super cool.  
I'm excited for you too.  
You've got a real future in the church, Sarah. I can see it.

SARAH

Yeah.

ANN

That's just great! Too many of you kids leave the second you  
get confirmed.  
I remember Terrys kids would come every Sunday, and now I  
only see them on Christmas and Easter.

SARAH

Yeah.

ANN

It's a darn shame.  
Our church needs people like you.  
I don't wanna get ahead of myself, but I could really see you  
as a deacon or a pastor.

Really? SARAH

Oh yeah! ANN  
You've got a way about you. More reserved.  
A-- a mature attitude! That's it.  
And very articulate.

Well, thank you. SARAH

You know what? You should do more readings!  
I know you're in class right now.  
But once you're confirmed, I'll talk to Gail and schedule you  
to read more.  
Are you more of an Old or New Testament kinda gal?

Its hard to say really. They're both so- SARAH

So great! ANN  
Yeah. In their own ways.

Yeah. SARAH

But you've got an Old Testament vibe. ANN  
Maybe its your name. Sarah. With the h too.  
Like Abrahams wife? I'm sure your mom talks about it all the  
time.

Not really- SARAH

Really? Oh, that's surprising. ANN  
Well, it's a great story about people putting their trust in  
God.  
I mean that's what all great Bible stories are.  
But its one of the greats.

Um. Yeah. SARAH

She has a baby at 100! ANN  
Who said religion isn't wild and exciting?

Not me- SARAH

ANN

(Chuckling)

Yeah well. Anywho.  
How is your mom?

SARAH

She's good.

ANN

I used to see her around all the time.  
Its like ever since she took over Sunday school, I never see her.

SARAH

Yeah, she's alright.

ANN

Yeah. I just used to see her a lot more when she worked on the vestry.  
Just uh, tell her I say hi and I miss seeing her around.  
Anywho.  
I get it, you gotta get home.  
Do you need a ride?

SARAH

No, I'm good. We live down the street.  
What um, why would my mom talk about that a lot?

ANN

Oh, uh. Just cause of the name thing.  
Maybe she named you after-- I don't know.

SARAH

I just thought she liked the name.

ANN

Yeah. That too.

(beat)

Ok, you seem busy. See ya around!

SARAH

Ok, see ya.

Sarah exits, slightly confused.

Ann sits back down at the drum set and plays a somewhat impressive drum solo as we transition to--

SCENE 4- A ROYAL ENTRANCE

Later. The Walsh home.



Sarah enters the kitchen and walks past Rose and David, going straight to her room. She puts her guitar down and launches herself onto her bed, face down, with a groan. After a moment, her mother enters.

ROSE

Hi sweetie.

SARAH

Mom I told you to knock.

ROSE

The door was open.

SARAH

Oh.

(She looks up.)

What is it?

ROSE

How was band practice?

SARAH

Oh. It was fine. They're just-

ROSE

-A lot?

Oh, I know.

Especially Shannon. She acts like she runs the whole church.

SARAH

Yeah.

She gave Gail a really hard time today.

And she doesn't really listen/

ROSE

/I worry for Ruth. The two of them in the same house.

Can you imagine?

Ugh, anyway, you were saying?

SARAH

It's fine.

I talked to Pastor Ann.

ROSE

Oh yeah?

What about?

SARAH

She was saying I should do more readings

ROSE

That's great!  
 That's good, right?  
 You can say no if you don't want to but honestly it would be  
 a good change.  
 Alice Newman can not read. I don't know why they always have  
 her do it.  
 I swear that woman is illiterate/

SARAH

/She also said she missed you?

ROSE

Alice Newman?

SARAH

No, Pastor Ann

ROSE

Oh.

(beat)

I don't know why she'd say that.  
 I see her all the time at church.

SARAH

Yeah. She just said you used to be in the vestry or something-

ROSE

Oh yea, when you two were really little I was more involved  
 in financial stuff.  
 It just got to be, uh,  
 too much.

(beat)

Alright, well, I'm glad it went well.  
 I don't have it in me to make dinner tonight, but there's  
 some leftover chili from last night in the fridge.

SARAH

Yeah, ok.  
 Oh wait Mom, have you seen my journaling bible?

ROSE

Uhm, no, I haven't. I'm sure its around somewhere honey, this  
 house is such a mess.

Rose leaves. Sarah starts looking for  
 her journaling bible. After a moment,  
 David appears in the doorway.

DAVID

What are you doing?

SARAH

Have you seen my journal?

DAVID

No, I didn't take your diary.

SARAH

Its not a diary, its a journaling bible.

DAVID

Either way its stupid.

SARAH

David, can you just leave me alone?

He stares at her at her from the door.

Get out of my room!

DAVID

I'm not in your room!

She gets up and tries to push the door in his face but he pushes back.

SARAH

What are you, five?  
Mom! David's being a jerk!

ROSE (O.S.)

David, leave your sister alone.

David lets go of the door and Sarah slams it shut. She continues looking for her journal. She finally gives up and sits on her bed. She looks up, hands clasped.

SARAH

Can you help me out here?

(waiting a moment)

Nothing?

I know I haven't done this in a while, but I am trying. Everyone around me seems to think I know what I'm doing, But I don't. Maybe if there was some kind of sign? Or evidence?

(beat)

This is stupid.

Ok. This is stupid. But. If anyone is even listening can I get some sort of sign?

(Long beat.

(MORE)

SARAH (CONT'D)  
 She clears her throat.)  
 Right. That was stupid.

The lights in the room shift. Sarah's closet door creaks open.

SARAH (CONT'D)  
 What-- hello?

Nothing. She stares at it for a moment. She looks back up.

SARAH (CONT'D)  
 Hello?

Lights flicker. Smoke pours out from under the closet door. The closet crashes open and Henry VIII glides out in a cloud of fog. Lightning crash! Guitar riff! Sarah freezes in shock. Henry coughs on the fog.

HENRY VIII  
 Hey!

SARAH  
 Holy shit!

She runs into the door in a panic. The doorknob won't turn.

HENRY VIII  
 Hey! No!  
 Wait!

Sarah keeps fidgeting with the door.

SARAH  
 How is the door locked? We don't have/

/Oh, honey, its not gonna open. Give it up

He sits down at her desk chair

SARAH  
 Banging on the door.  
 MOM! MOOOM!

HENRY VIII  
 She cant hear you!  
 How do you think this works?

(MORE)

HENRY VIII (CONT'D)

Jesus, you ask for a sign and then get all freaked out when something actually happens!

Sarah stops

SARAH

What?

(Beat. She points)

GOD?

HENRY VIII

Oh, Christ no.  
If I was God, I think you would know.

He reaches out a hand.

Henry

Sarah blinks at him. He keeps his hand up for a moment before putting it back down.

Henry VIII

SARAH

Henry VIII-

HENRY

King Henry VIII  
Of England.

SARAH

No, yeah.  
Um yeah.  
What?

HENRY

Sarah, I've been watching you for a while now.

SARAH

Wait. We just talked about you in class today.  
And you just-- now you're here.  
You've been watching me from my closet?

HENRY

No!  
Well, yes, this is where I come out of.  
But I've watched you from other places.

SARAH

Like heaven?

HENRY

Well, from bushes mainly.  
Heaven is actually part of my problem.

He takes out her journaling bible.

SARAH

How did you get/

HENRY

/I've been watching you for a bit and when I found this I knew it was time.

SARAH

Time for what?

HENRY

Time to introduce myself!  
Ok, ok, shut up.

He clears his throat, opens the journaling bible and reads:

HENRY (CONT'D)

"The more I read about the Bible, the less I understand. Am I missing something? I wish I had whatever everyone else had that makes them understand all of this."

He stops reading, sarcastic

This is really deep stuff, Sarah

SARAH

No one else is supposed to read it.

HENRY

Yes, but secretly you want someone to. Wouldn't that make things easier?  
If your mom just read this and you didn't have to admit anything?

SARAH

So, what? You're here to make my life easier?

HENRY

Exactly! And you can help me too.

SARAH

I don't want to help you.

HENRY

Excuse you?

SARAH

I-- You, you're a terrible person. Or ghost or whatever/

HENRY

Am not/

SARAH

Are too/

HENRY

Sure. Maybe I was a slightly unsavory individual when I was alive but--

SARAH

You killed your wives!

HENRY

I *had two* of them *executed*.  
Besides, I'm more of a 4/6ths wives unkilld kind of guy.

SARAH

Whatever you're still a creep.

HENRY

Anne Boleyn's death was so humane, I wish someone would have had me die in such a manner.

SARAH

By getting your head chopped off?

HENRY

By getting my head sliced off by an expert swordsman.  
And she was really understanding about the whole thing,  
really.  
You know what?  
This isn't what I came to talk to you about.

SARAH

What then.

HENRY

Ok ok. So.  
You know how I started that whole,

(Waving his hands)

Church of England thing.

SARAH

Yes

HENRY

Well God is kind of upset with me for that

SARAH

So God is real?

HENRY

Well I assume so.

SARAH

You *assume so*? So you've never even met him?

HENRY

No! Ugh, everyone always wants to know if I've met him.  
He's a busy guy, ok?  
But I know that he's mad at me.  
And I've tried a bunch of things to get out of this current  
state that I seem to be stuck in.  
BUT I came to this sudden realization.

SARAH

What's that

HENRY

God is mad at me because I separated from the Catholic  
church.

SARAH

Because God is Catholic?

HENRY

Because I fucked with one of his biggest groups.  
God doesn't like to be fucked with.

SARAH

So I've been told.

HENRY

*This* is because I started the Anglican Church.

SARAH

What does that have to do with me?

HENRY

Well. God doesn't think I started the church for legitimate  
reasons.  
So if I can get a genuine non-believer to start believing in  
him then he'll see that this is legitimate.

SARAH

I'm not a genuine non-believer. I just. I don't know what I/

HENRY

/Even better! It doesn't really matter as long as the message  
is clear.

SARAH

I don't think it is/

HENRY

/Just start believing in him!  
I mean, me appearing here should be enough for you



SARAH

You've never seen him.

HENRY

Moses saw a burning bush and he believed,  
You see the ghost of a former king of England in your  
suburban home and you don't?  
What else do you need?

SARAH

I don't know. To see him, I guess.

HENRY

Well, good fucking luck getting a meeting.  
I've tried, he's all booked up until the Revelation.

SARAH

Maybe you should just find someone else.

HENRY

Oh come on, why not?  
Wouldn't you like to believe in Him?

SARAH

I don't even know at this point. I think I'd just like to  
stop hallucinating. Or dreaming. Maybe I was drugged!

HENRY

What about your confirmation? Don't you want to have a good,  
convincing speech?

SARAH

I guess so.

HENRY

Ok so lets make a deal! Ill help you believe all this stuff  
that you want to believe and you'll help me by getting me on  
God's good side.

SARAH

How are you going to do that?

HENRY

I'm going to follow you around, mentor you. Make sure you  
don't fuck up like you've clearly been doing.

SARAH

You can't do that.  
I have school, and a life outside of this, and  
what if people see you?

HENRY

God, Sarah, nobody's gonna see me, would you chill out?  
And you probably don't even like school/ so let's just skip  
it/

SARAH

/yes, I have jazz club and student government and/ wait. Skip  
it? What do you mean?

HENRY

Oh, its super simple.

He flips to a page of her journal and  
hands it to her.

Read this one.

SARAH

"Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem"? You want me to read  
about Palm Sunday?

HENRY

Just do it

## SCENE 5- THE ROYAL WELCOME

Sarah begins to read. Henry runs  
offstage.

As she does, her room slowly becomes  
the Sunday School classroom.

SARAH

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethpage,

David and Ruth come out dressed as  
disciples.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Wait are you guys in on this?

HENRY (O.S.)

It's magic you fuckhead! Just keep reading!

SARAH

at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples,

Henry runs back out in a poorly  
constructed Jesus costume. He turns to  
his two disciples.

SARAH (CONT'D)

saying to them

HENRY

Blah Blah Blah, Bring me a baby donkey, a colt that is. If anyone says anything to you, just say, "Gods son fuckin needs it". And he will send them immediately.

David and Ruth go back offstage.

SARAH

This fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,  
"Tell Zions daughter  
Look, your king is coming, poised and ready,  
Mounted on a donkey, on a colt, Foal of a pack animal"

The disciples bring back a donkey It is a large stuffed animal sitting on a red wagon.

Henry gets on the "donkey"

SARAH (CONT'D)

As he made his entrance into the city, a huge crowd gathered

Ruth, David, and now Rose, gather around Henry.

SARAH (CONT'D)

and threw their coats and branches down in front of him

They throw Palm fronds and their spring jackets down at him.

SARAH (CONT'D)

and they all said:

EVERYONE

Hosanna to the Son of David!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!

David, Ruth, and Rose all sit in the circle. Sarah keeps reading. David is folding palm fronds into various shapes.

SARAH

Then he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, Who is this? The crowds were saying, This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.

Henry gets off the "donkey" and bows.

Sarah looks suspiciously at everyone else in the room as Henry takes off his Jesus costume. They don't notice him.

ROSE

Thanks for reading that, Sarah.  
It's good you found your journaling bible.  
Ok, so. Lets talk about that. Palm Sunday. What's it all about?

RUTH

(raising her hand)  
The beginning of holy week!

ROSE

That's right!  
Sarah, what do you have to say about it?

She is staring at Henry. Then to everyone else in the room

SARAH

Huh?

HENRY

Don't look at me you're being weird

ROSE

Palm Sunday?  
The passage you just read?

SARAH

Oh, uh-

HENRY

Wait! Look here

Henry holds up a cue card and she squints at it.

SARAH

Uh. Its a time of remembrance leading up into the last week of Christs life.

ROSE

Very good!

SARAH

Thanks.

David rolls his eyes.

ROSE

So that's what it is, but what is Palm Sundays deeper significance? Dig really deep.

DAVID

Is it to torture us?

Henry goes to the next cue card.

SARAH

Jesus's entrance into the Jerusalem was prophesied in the Old Testament.

He came riding into town on a young donkey, a pack animal, which would have symbolized his entry as a prince of peace, rather than a power hungry, war-raging king.

ROSE

Wow, Sarah!  
You are on your A-game today.

RUTH

I couldn't have said it better myself even if I tried-

ROSE

Why don't we move on to confirmation materials?  
You guys seem to really have this down.

David has made a gun out of the palm fronds.

ROSE (CONT'D)

David, what did I say about making the palm fronds into shapes other than crosses?

DAVID

(Pointing it at her)

That it was an impressive art form?

She stares at him, holding out her hand

Ugh, fine.

He hands over his gun.

Henry sits down next to Sarah. Ruth is on the other side of her.

RUTH

Your interpretation of Palm Sunday really blew my mind, Sarah.  
So insightful.

SARAH

Oh, thanks Ruth. Yeah, it just really came from the heart.

HENRY

Bit of a suck up this one.

Sarah nods her head.

SARAH

Where did you get those cards?

HENRY

Printed out the Palm Sunday Wikipedia page.

ROSE

Why don't we move onto confirmation materials?  
Sarah and Ruth, you should have both prepared a short  
presentation on your biblical characters.

Sarah looks panicked. Ruth excitedly  
raises her hand.

RUTH

Oh! Ooh! Can I go first?

ROSE

Sure thing Ruth, you don't mind, right Sarah?

SARAH

(To Henry)

I don't have anything for this

HENRY

(He thinks)

Don't worry, I got you covered.

He exits.

SARAH

Wait--

ROSE

Sarah?

SARAH

Huh?

No- No I don't mind.

ROSE

Great!

Take us away, Ruth.

Ruth stands.

RUTH

I actually got a little creative with this assignment.

DAVID

Oh joy.

RUTH

I actually think you'll really enjoy this David/

DAVID

/probably not/

RUTH

/I decided, instead of doing a formal report, to sing a song.

ROSE

And you chose-

RUTH

Ruth! And fun fact is she's actually Jesus  
Great great great great great great great great great  
great great great/

ROSE

/Wow. Lotta greats there.

RUTH

It's 28 greats. Because she.. is pretty *GREAT*

(She laughs)

Anyway on to the song. This is from the perspective of Ruth.

She takes a deep breath and sings.

(To the tune of My Girl by The  
Temptations:)

IVE GOT FAMINE, IN MY HUSBANDS LAND  
WHEN HE STARVES AND DIES, I STAY AT HIS MOTHERS HAND  
WELL I GUESS YOUD ASK  
WHAT COULD MAKE ME KEEP THIS TASK  
MY GOD (MY GOD)  
TALKIN BOUT MY GOD (MY GOD)

David covers his ears and acts as  
though he's dying.

IVE GOT SO MUCH FAITH, UNENDING LOYALTY  
I SHOWED MY STRENGTH AND SO, BOAZ MARRIED ME  
I GUESS YOUD ASK  
WHAT COULD MAKE ME KEEP THIS TASK-  
MY GOD (MY GOD)  
TALKIN BOUT MY GOD (MY GOD)-  
HEY HEY HEY  
HEY HEY HEY-

ROSE

Wow! That was great Ruth. You went above and beyond what anyone could possibly expect/

DAVID

/Or ask for.

RUTH

Oh, thanks. I actually have two more verses if you want to hear-

ROSE

You know, maybe some other time. Just because of time restraints-

RUTH

Right- yeah- sure

ROSE

Would you like to talk more about the story of Ruth?

RUTH

I don't know- I feel like the song would have really spoken for itself.

(beat)

Her husband died but he stayed with his family to make sure his mother would be ok. She's like- really flippin cool. I like, really identify with her.

ROSE

Well, thank you for sharing, Ruth. Its a great story and your song was very-

DAVID

Unnecessary?

ROSE

Creative.

RUTH

Did you at least like it, Sarah?

SARAH

Oh, yeah. It was. It was great.

Henry re-enters. He is dressed up as SARAH, the biblical character.

Why are you dressed like that?

HENRY

For your presentation. Someone has to take this seriously.



RUTH

Thanks, that means a lot coming from a musically talented person like yourself.

HENRY

God, she maybe be a suck up but that was brilliant. Its gonna be hard to top it, but I think we can.

ROSE

Ok, Sarah, do you want to present your person?

SARAH

(to Henry)

You liked that song?

HENRY

Uh, yeah it was incredible. Here, I wrote a short report for you so just read it.

Sarah looks down at it.

SARAH

Wait, I can't even read this.

HENRY

What, you cant read? You just did

SARAH

No, this is-  
This is just scribbles. And the words I can make out-  
Doth, thou? And, vind-- vindoma-

HENRY

Vindomatefied?  
You don't know that? Its a common, everyday word.

SARAH

I cant read this- this is old 1500s English in sloppy script writing.

HENRY

Oh, so I can learn how to use a printer but you cant read proper English?  
That's fucked up-

ROSE

Whenever you're ready Sarah.

HENRY

Just wing it! You know the story of Sarah, right? Abrahams wife?

SARAH

I mean, not really.

HENRY

But aren't you named after,--  
Whatever, I'll help you fill in the blanks.

SARAH

Ok.  
Um, alright, Mom, I'm ready.

She stands up.

ROSE

Great! Take it away.

SARAH

Ok, so. I'm doing SARAH, Abrahams wife.

ROSE

Oh, ok.

RUTH

Looks like someone had a similar idea to me

HENRY

Oh shit she's right. Ok, maybe we can still salvage this but  
it's not looking good.

Henry stands behind Rose.

SARAH

Ok. So. Sarah was Abraham's wife. And Abraham was--  
A really important guy.

Henry shakes his head in disapproval.

DAVID

Please say more.

SARAH

Yeah so--  
Sarah. Oh right! I think I--  
So Sarah couldn't have kids.

Henry gives a thumbs up.

SARAH (CONT'D)

And her and Abraham kept trying to have kids but they  
couldn't?

Henry nods

And they got to a point where they figured- hey maybe well  
never have kids.

Henry makes complicated hand gestures.  
But then- what?

ROSE  
Sarah do you actually have this prepared?

SARAH  
Yes! Yeah, so then-

Henry mimes rocking a baby  
She has the baby

He keeps miming  
But wait- before that- she was told she couldn't- could!  
Should have a child.  
And a bird told her that.

ROSE  
I don't think-

SARAH  
Sorry- no. It was an angel. My bad.  
An angel told her that she would have a baby.  
But she didn't believe them because she was so sad.  
Um. I mean she was sad about not being able to have a baby  
because she was so old.  
But then she did. She had a baby finally.  
Even though she was really old. Like 100.  
Ok. That's it. Thanks.

She sits down. Henry looks  
disappointed.

DAVID  
Well done.

ROSE  
Is that all you have?

SARAH  
Well, Ruth's presentation was pretty short.

RUTH  
I had more of the song!

ROSE  
It just seems like you kind of missed the point of the story.

SARAH  
God let her have a baby really old.

DAVID  
Are you having a stroke?

HENRY

You're really blowing this, kid.

SARAH

(to henry but appearing to be  
towards david.)

You didn't even do anything!

ROSE

Woah. Ok, Sarah don't take it out on your brother.  
I think its clear that I didn't give you guys enough time to  
prepare for this.  
That's just my bad.

RUTH

But I was-

ROSE

As long as you guys feel prepared for your confirmations, we  
don't have to spend extra time on unnecessary assignments.

RUTH

You're right. I'm sorry for letting you down, Mrs. Walsh.

HENRY

Oh great and now she's apologizing for her incredible  
performance.

SARAH

I'm sorry too, Mom.

ROSE

Its ok lets just.  
If either of you have any more questions about confirmation  
you can just ask me.

HENRY

This is so bad. I cannot imagine a worse scenario.

SARAH

You did this!

HENRY

I did this? I've done nothing but help you, you're the one  
who completely choked!  
You know what? This is all fucked. Let's just move a little  
more forward and we can have some semblance of a fresh start.

He grabs the journaling bible from her  
and opens to a page.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Ok. Next chapter. "Jesus Cleanses the temple"

Rose, David, and Ruth are all pulled away in their chairs. They are replaced with Ann, who is softly playing the drums.

SCENE 6- HE KICKED OVER THE TABLES

Ann is humming "The Temple" from Jesus Christ Superstar. Henry now has a bottle of wine that he's drinking from.

SARAH

Where did you get that?

HENRY

Communion.

He takes a swig and notices Ann.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Who. Is that.

SARAH

Pastor Ann? She's.... the pastor.

HENRY

She's fit.

SARAH

What?

HENRY

Something about an older broad in a collar.

SARAH

No. Absolutely not. Are you serious?  
Are you drunk?

HENRY

Maybe. My point still stands. I'd watch out for her. I don't trust a bird like that choosing to be a pastor. Silver fox like that, she should be/

Ann notices Sarah.

ANN

/Sarah!

SARAH

Oh! Uh. Hi Ann.  
Um. Sorry.

ANN

For what?

SARAH

Nothing. Um.  
What was that you were singing?

ANN

Jesus Christ Superstar!

SARAH

I don't know that.

ANN

Really?  
Your mother loved that musical!  
She played it so much when she was pregnant with you we used  
to joke that you'd come out humming it.

SARAH

When she was pregnant?

HENRY

I'd let her get me pregnant.

He laughs and drunkenly collapses on a  
bean bag chair in the corner.

ANN

Well, who do you think convinced her to join St.Pauls?

SARAH

She never told me that.

ANN

Oh. Yeah. I've known your mother for a long time.

SARAH

Oh. That's/

ANN

/I wanted to apologize

SARAH

Oh?

ANN

I came on too strong the other day.  
I get so enthusiastic about seeing potential in you young  
people that I forget that I might scare you away.

SARAH

Oh, no. You're alright.

ANN

Yeah?  
Well okay then.

Shannon and Ruth enter.

ANN (CONT'D)  
Ruth! What a wonderful surprise.

Henry looks up

HENRY  
Oh God it's her again.

SHANNON  
Yes, I hope you guys don't mind but I brought Ruthie for practice.  
She brought up the fact that this will also be her confirmation and should have a place in this. Not to mention she's a wonderful singer and I think we're gonna need a bigger presence if we're gonna pull this off

ANN  
Well, of course!  
Welcome to the band, Ruth

RUTH  
I have a question.  
Have you ever considered doing original songs?

ANN  
No, we've never talked about that before.  
I guess I wouldn't be opposed to it.

HENRY  
I don't like where this is going.  
She's upstaging you already!

RUTH  
Good, because I actually have a few I'd like to share.

(To the tune of sweet Caroline)  
HES A FRIEND OF MINE  
BA BA BA  
AND I LOVE HIM HOW I SHOULD  
CHRIST IS ONLY KIND  
BA BA BA  
JUST HOW PEOPLE SAID HE WOULD BE/

ANN  
/wow! That's really great Ruth.

Henry breaks into standing ovation but falls back down.

HENRY  
How are you supposed to compete with that!

ANN

It seems like we got a little religious Weird Al on our hands.

RUTH

I take that as an insult.

ANN

I meant it as a compliment

RUTH

Well its not.

Gail enters.

ANN

Here's our last band member!  
Hi Gail.

GAIL

Hi, Ann, nice to see you.

SHANNON

Nice of you to finally show up, Gail.

ANN

Actually, I think the rest of us were early, Shannon.

GAIL

I'm sorry, I was making dinner plans with someone and lost track of time.

ANN

You seem awfully chipper, Gail.  
Who are you getting dinner with?

GAIL

Oh, just an old friend.

SHANNON

Just an old friend?

RUTH

Mom

GAIL

Yes, Shannon. I have friends.

She sits down and pulls out an instrument. Its an OBOE.

SHANNON

Gail, what. The heck. Is that?



GAIL

(Taking her oboe out of its  
case)

My oboe

SHANNON

I don't know why you would bring that, Gail

HENRY

Oh, this woman is dreadful.

GAIL

To play it, Shannon

SHANNON

Well, I don't have any music for an oboe piece

GAIL

That's ok.  
I brought my own.

SHANNON

Ok. That's fine.  
That's fine  
Well see how it works in.

ANN

Alrighty!  
Ruth, do you play an instrument?

RUTH

I sing. And I brought a Tambourine

HENRY

A triple threat!

SARAH

What's the third thing?

HENRY

Fuck you! That's what it is. I should have chosen her to take  
under my wing. It's a shame she's already completely figured  
herself out.

ANN

Tambourine is just what this song was missing.

SHANNON

Oh, so it wasn't the oboe!

ANN

*Shannon*

SHANNON

Sorry Ann.  
Sorry Gail.  
Things have been going on at home and/ I

RUTH

/Ok, lets get started!

ANN

Um. Ok-

HENRY

Sarah, you really need to step it up here.  
Do you have some sort of game plan?

SARAH

(Strapping on her guitar)

What? No. I don't need one. I just play the guitar.

HENRY

Do you see what's happening here?  
Ruth is completely dominating everything here!  
No one is ever going to take you seriously

SARAH

I really don't think people see it that way

HENRY

Trust me, they do

ANN

1,2,3,4!

Sarah starts playing with the band.  
Henry stands next to her, holding a  
triangle.

ANN & RUTH & SHANNON

I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT  
I WANT TO FOLLOW JESUS

HENRY

Look at her, she's so much better than you.

SARAH

I don't think Ruth is one of my concerns.

ANN & RUTH & SHANNON

GOD SENT THE STARS TO GIVE LIGHT TO THE WORLD  
THE STAR OF MY LIFE IS JESUS

HENRY

Oh, please, she's your biggest one.  
No one will think that you believe with her in the way!

ANN &amp; RUTH &amp; SHANNON

IN HIM THERE IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL  
THE NIGHT AND THE DAY ARE BOTH ALIKE

SARAH

I don't care about that! As long as I actually do.

HENRY

If you really wanted to believe you would try to stand out.  
That's the first step.

ANN &amp; RUTH &amp; SHANNON

THE LAMB IS THE LIGHT OF THE CITY OF GOD  
SHINE IN MY HEART, LORD JESUS

SARAH

Well I don't know how to do that!

HENRY

Sing! Louder than Ruth!

SARAH

I can't!

HENRY

What do you mean, you can't?

SARAH

I don't sing!

ANN &amp; RUTH &amp; SHANNON

I WANT TO SEE THE BRIGHTNESS OF GOD  
I WANT TO LOOK AT JESUS  
CLEAR SUN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, SHINE ON MY PATH

HENRY

Why not?

SARAH

I don't know! I haven't since church camp.

ANN &amp; RUTH &amp; SHANNON

AND SHOW ME THE WAY TO THE FATHER  
IN HIM THERE IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL  
THE NIGHT AND THE DAY ARE BOTH ALIKE

HENRY

Well you need to do something!

He leaves for a moment and comes back out with an amp and some pedals. He plugs in her guitar.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Shred it!

Sarah plays the song all distorted. She transitions to playing "The Temple"

HENRY (CONT'D)

Fuck yeah!

He kicks a chair. Flips a table.

HENRY (CONT'D)

MY TEMPLE SHOULD BE A HOUSE OF PRAYER,  
BUT YOU HAVE MADE IT A DEN OF THIEVES.  
GET OUT! GET OUT!

MY TIME IS ALMOST THROUGH.

LITTLE LEFT TO DO.

I've had it with you! You're hopeless! Pharisees! Frauds!  
Your life is a roadblock to Gods kingdom. You refuse to enter, and wont let anyone else in either!

He's destroying the room.

SARAH

Yeah!

She finishes playing and smashes her guitar on the ground. The room is silent. Everyone is staring at her.

ANN

Oh my--

SHANNON

Sarah! Your guitar!

RUTH

Why would you do that?

SARAH

I'm sorry, I. I just got carried away and/

Henry takes out the journal and opens it.

HENRY

"The Authority of Jesus Questioned"

The band freezes in place.

HENRY (CONT'D)

That was cringe city I had to stop that  
What the hell?

SARAH

What? What the hell was that!  
You were the one flipping over tables and screaming nonsense.

HENRY

WWJD, Sarah. If you don't like it, take it up with the big  
man upstairs. Kill the message, not the messenger.

SARAH

I don't think that's-  
And God, you're completely wasted!  
This is so screwed up. You're not even helping me.

HENRY

Oh, whatever!  
I like a little boozy! Sue me!  
Little bit o' Jesus blood never hurt anybody.

SARAH

What gives you the right. The *authority* to drag my life  
around in the mud and say that you're doing me some big  
favor?

HENRY

Authority? Nobody ever asked Christ *his* authority.

SARAH

Actually they did. Multiple times. It's the chapter we're on  
right now. You just quoted it. You literally just said "The  
Authority of Jesus Questioned".

HENRY

(flipping through the journal )

Ok, ok calm down. Oh.  
So it is. Whatever. Jesus was a weirdo who spoke in riddles.  
I however, am a former monarch who has done nothing but offer  
service to you.  
And you know what? I don't want to do this right now, I'm  
actually kind of hungry.

SCENE 7- THE LAST SUPPER

ROSE (O.S.)

Time for dinner!

HENRY

Right on time! Lovely.

SARAH  
Wait! Stop!

HENRY  
What?

SARAH  
I don't want to do this anymore. You keep jumping around and it's making everything so much worse.

HENRY  
Well this band thing clearly isn't doing anything for you.

SARAH  
Not everything in my life needs to have the sole purpose of helping me believe in God.

HENRY  
Fine. Ill give you one more chance here. But just because I really believe in you.

SARAH  
No, you're not. I'm giving you one last chance/

HENRY  
/I'm giving you one last chance/

SARAH  
/I'm/

HENRY  
/Giving you one more chance.

ROSE (O.S.)  
Sarah!

SARAH  
Just, stop flipping tables and acting like a lunatic. I'm probably gonna get in trouble for what just happened. Everyone is noticing that I'm being weird.

HENRY  
Well, that's a good thing! You were so boring before.

ROSE (O.S.)  
Sarah!

They are now in the kitchen. All of the usual clutter on the table has been pushed to the side. Rose is setting the table. Sarah takes her seat. Henry looks at the food.

HENRY

Ugh, well, this all looks like shit.  
I know I cant expect to eat like a king any more but come on-

He looks in the pantry.

HENRY (CONT'D)

There's barely any food in here. I'll be back.

He exits.

Rose sits at the table. The phone rings.

ROSE

Who's calling at dinner time?

(answering)

Hello?

Oh hi Shannon. We were just--  
What?

Sarah sinks into her seat.

ROSE (CONT'D)

She *what*?

ROSE (CONT'D)

Why would she-- ok.  
Alright. Um. Thanks for telling me.  
I'm sorry about that. Goodbye Shannon.

She whips her head to Sarah.

SARAH

So. You got a rotisserie chicken?

ROSE

That was Shannon.  
She said. It's gonna sound silly saying it out loud.  
She said you destroyed your guitar?

SARAH

I--

ROSE

Sarah, what happened?

SARAH

I don't know.

ROSE

No.  
What the *hell* is wrong with you?  
Do you think I have the money to be buying you new guitars?

SARAH

What?

ROSE

If you haven't noticed, funds have been a little tight around here. And you can't just go breaking shit!

SARAH

Why are funds tight? I thought Dad's business was doing well.

ROSE

No. I. I don't want to talk about this with you.

SARAH

Ok, I'm sorry.

ROSE

You're going to go to those women and apologize and beg to play with them for your confirmation. I don't want people to not see you up there and start talking.  
Shannon says she has a guitar you could borrow.

SARAH

Ok. Is that it?

ROSE

What? Do you want more? I can't exactly ground you like your brother. You never go anywhere.

(beat)

Please don't talk to your brother about this.

SARAH

Why would I? He would love this.

ROSE

No I mean about the money stuff.

(beat)

David! Dinner!

SARAH

Where is Dad?

ROSE

He told me not to yell at him for dinner anymore.  
So now he gets to figure it out.

David runs down into the kitchen.



DAVID  
Dad's taking a massive shit upstairs.

(beat)  
Rotisserie chicken?

He picks at some food on the table and eats.

ROSE

(Swatting his hand away)  
Language! Not at the dinner table.

DAVID  
What? I heard him grunting up there.  
Sounds like he's going to clog the toilet

ROSE  
Can you just sit down?  
Lets all just sit down and eat.

Rose and David sit. John's seat is left empty.

Henry reenters with more wine and a baguette.

HENRY  
What'd I miss?

SARAH  
Nothing.

Henry sits down at the table in Johns chair.

HENRY  
Seems tense.

David starts pulling at food and eating.

HENRY (CONT'D)  
Woah! No grace?  
You're not gonna say grace? Blasphemy!

SARAH  
We don't really do that.  
Maybe if my grandmas around.

HENRY  
Well, I'm your grandma now.  
Say grace!

We don't-  
 Say it!  
 Um. Mom?  
 Yes?  
 What if we said grace?  
 What?  
 Why would we do that?  
 Normally you say that before you start eating, honey.  
 Oh, ok. Never mind. Forget it.  
 I mean. We could still say it.  
 Better late than never.  
 I suppose-  
 Why would we do that? We never say grace.  
 What's his problem?  
 Men have been kings at his age, but he's a little whiny bitch.  
 I just think it would be nice.  
 Ok. Um. You know what? Lets do it.  
 (They hold hands. She grabs David's.)  
 Your father always made fun of saying grace.  
 (Sarah takes Henry's hand)  
 Ok. Lord, Let us say thanks for the food we are about to eat.  
 Amen.

Amen.

SARAH

David goes back to eating, annoyed.

HENRY

That's it?  
That's all we get?

SARAH

Its fine, we never do that anyway.

HENRY

Then why does this even matter?  
You're trying to become more religious for people who don't  
even give a shit?

SARAH

My mom gives a shit.

ROSE

Sarah, how is confirmation going?

SARAH

It's ok.

ROSE

I just want to make sure. Especially after that phone call.

DAVID

Ooh. What phone call?

HENRY

This isn't good, Sarah. I can smell it.

ROSE

I think you should talk to Ruth. She seems to know what she's  
doing for her confirmation.

HENRY

Little miss perfect is infiltrating your home, now.  
Truly, I tell you, someone is going to betray you.

SARAH

No, she's/

ROSE

/She's what?

DAVID

Yeah, she's what?

HENRY

It would have been so much better if she had never been born.

SARAH

(to Rose)

No, uh. I mean,  
I'd love to.

ROSE

Great! You two should meet up this week. I can invite her  
over.

HENRY

You're inviting the enemy into your home.

SARAH

She's not my enemy.

HENRY

It is those who you let into your home that always betray  
you. It will be someone who has dipped their hand into the  
bowl with you.

SARAH

What bowl? What are you even talking about?  
And why did you bring your own food? Can you even eat?  
Aren't you a ghost?

HENRY

You ask so many questions.  
Where's your Dad? Is he dead or something?

SARAH

He's shitting upstairs.

HENRY

That's a long shit.

SARAH

He's a grown man

HENRY

So am I. Never shat this long.

SARAH

He gets constipated.

HENRY

How do you know that?

SARAH

My mom talks about it. All the time.

ROSE

Your father must be constipated again.

DAVID

Gross, Mom.

ROSE

He's not taking those pills I got him.

HENRY

So she does.

He pops open his wine and takes a swig.

SARAH

How are you supposed to teach me anything if you get drunk all the time?

HENRY

*Jesus* drank a lot of wine.  
Do you know *anything* about your religion?

He pulls out her journaling bible. He opens it on the table.

HENRY (CONT'D)

"The Institution of the Lord's Supper.

SARAH

No, come on. Just give me a break.

He ignores her. As he reads, the table is unfolded from a square into a long rectangle so that Henry is seated in the middle with Rose and David on his left and Sarah on his right. The last supper.

HENRY (CONTD)

Take eat, this is my body

He holds the bread as though he's going to rip in half. But then he puts it down and removes his arm.

SARAH

Ah!

DAVID

Did you find a small bone in your chicken too?

ROSE

Just eat around it, honey

HENRY

Eat around it.  
Eat around the bone, Sarah

He holds the arm up closer to her face.

She looks at it, about to take a bite,  
but she breaks out of it.

SARAH

No! I cant take this anymore!

ROSE

Sarah, we talked about this. I can't make a homemade meal  
every night of the week.

DAVID

Yeah! Sarah's right! This is a mutiny!

HENRY

A mutiny?  
Now you've done it!

DAVID

Mom, at least don't say you're getting take out when what you  
mean is you're getting a rotisserie chicken.

ROSE

That is take out to me!

HENRY

This is getting heated.  
I'm thirsty.

He stabs his detached forearm with a  
fork. He holds a cup up to it and blood  
pours out. He drinks a little.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Whoo! My BAC is still kinda high. Spicy!

He holds the cup up to Sarah's mouth.  
David and Rose continue to fight.

ROSE

If you made dinner even one night of the week then maybe,  
MAYBE you could have a say.

DAVID

Austin's parents let him have takeout once a week!

ROSE

Yeah well you know what?  
Austin's a spoiled rich kid and his Dad is fat!  
And Austin will be too soon!

HENRY

Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins

DAVID

Mom. That's so messed up!

ROSE

If you like Austin's family so much you should go eat at his house!

DAVID

Fine I will!

Henry spills some of the wine blood on Sarah, trying to get her to drink it. She looks down at her lap, upset.

SARAH

Stop!

Rose and David stop yelling at each other.

ROSE

You're right.  
I'm. I'm sorry. That was really impolite of me to call Austin's Dad fat.

DAVID

It's whatever

SARAH

What? No. I--

HENRY

These aren't even pious people!

SARAH

I need to go.

ROSE

Ok--

HENRY

You're right. Lets get out of here.

SARAH

No! That's enough! This is done!

DAVID

Woah.

HENRY  
Are you breaking up with me/

SARAH  
You have to be together first to break up!

HENRY  
You don't mean that!

Sarah gets up from her seat revealing  
the spilled bloodstain.

DAVID  
Holy shit! Gross!  
Did you get your period?

SARAH  
Shut up!

She runs offstage. Henry picks up his  
arm and runs after her.

HENRY  
Sarah! Wait!

ROSE  
Well, that's sort of a relief.  
I guess it's just hormones.

DAVID  
Its gross

ROSE  
David, sweetie, what your sister is going through is very  
normal and natural.

Sarah storms into her room and slams  
the door behind her. She looks down at  
the crotch of her pants.

SARAH  
Dammit, these are my favorite pants.

Henry enters.

HENRY  
Oh good, I was worried you were gonna lock the door.

SARAH  
My mom doesn't let us put locks on the doors!

HENRY  
Woah, ok, calm down.



SARAH

No! You! You suck!

HENRY

Wow. Ok.

SARAH

You suck!  
And you aren't helping me!  
And now everyone thinks I perioded my pants!

HENRY

Hey! Listen. You cant go around blaming everyone else for your problems.  
When I was trying to get married for the 4th time, I was promised a smokin hot, Pastor Ann type dame. But you know who got off the boat? Anne of Cleves! The ugliest motherfucker of the 16th century.

SARAH

What does that have to do with anything?

HENRY

Do you think I moped around and blamed others for my problems? No! I put that ugly bitch back on the boat and called it a day.

SARAH

Well I'm not like you!  
We are nothing alike!

HENRY

Well no wonder!  
How are you supposed to be religious when your own family doesn't care about basic things like grace?

SARAH

They have other things going on. It's not their fault.

HENRY

Oh but it completely is! And with your mother calling Ruth over? She's doing nothing but trying to destroy you.

SARAH

No she's /not

HENRY

/I think we have to get rid of them.

SARAH

What?

HENRY

It's the only way to help you. You'll never be who you want with them in the way. Listen-- when I was stalking you I found some really good places to hide a body.

SARAH

You want to kill my family.

HENRY

I know it's not much but it's surely a step in the right direction.

SARAH

Ok. Ok. You know what?

She kicks him in the balls. He drops his arm and the journal. She rushes to pick them up, slapping him with his own hand. He's doubled over.

HENRY

What the hell??

SARAH

That's where you belong! You bastard!

HENRY

I was legally conceived!

SARAH

Whatever!

He gets up and charges her. She steps out of the way, slamming his body into the closet, which opens.

SARAH (CONT'D)

This is what you want? My stupid journaling bible? Well, here, take it!

She throws his arm and her journal into the closet behind him. He turns around and goes in the closet to get them.

HENRY

So what? This was your big plan? To--

Sarah slams the closet door shut behind him and pushes her back against the door.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Hey!

SARAH

Go away! Back to where you came from!

HENRY (O.S.)

Yeah right, I'm not gonna do that.

SARAH

Fine. Then you'll just waste away in my closet forever.

HENRY (O.S.)

And you're just going to hold the door forever?

She looks around the room. With her back still against the door, she reaches for an aux chord next to her amp and ties it around the closet doors.

HENRY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

(knocking against the door)

Fine. You win for now. But I'll be back.

SARAH

No you won't! You're never getting out of here

HENRY (O.S.)

You'll deny my existence three times before the cock crows. But then I will return

SARAH

See? This is what I'm talking about!  
This cryptic shit doesn't help me.

HENRY (O.S.)

You'll see in time.  
Goodbye for now, Sarah.

Henry stops pushing against the door. Sarah turns around and slides against the wall, exhausted.

END OF ACT 1

ACT 2

## SCENE 8 - STONE OVER THE TOMB

AT RISE:

The next day. Sarah's bedroom. The closet door is still tied shut.

Sarah enters her room carrying planks of wood and a toolbox. She takes a plank and nails it to the wall, blocking the closet door.

SARAH

You're not getting out, Henry.

David enters

DAVID

(sarcastic)

This is normal

SARAH

My door kept rattling last night so I decided to secure it a little more

DAVID

By boarding it up?

SARAH

Yes

DAVID

Ok.

He exits. Yelling into the rest of the house

MOOoom, Sarah's gone fucking crazy

ROSE (O.S.)

David, don't say fuck in the house.

He comes back in.

DAVID

You are crazy.

SARAH

Why don't you believe in anything?

DAVID  
What?

SARAH  
Like why are you an atheist.

DAVID  
(Disappointed)  
Oh God, is this about religion?  
I thought you were going fun crazy.  
It is so annoying of you to become a religious nut

SARAH  
Why

DAVID  
I don't know, it just seems unoriginal like you could be anything but/

SARAH  
/No.  
Why don't you believe in it

DAVID  
I don't want to talk about this with you.  
Mom is bad enough as it is.

SARAH  
Do you think you have mommy issues?

DAVID  
Ew, don't say mommy

SARAH  
Is it because she likes me more

DAVID  
She does not

(beat)  
Ok. She does. But I could be her favorite if I wanted to be  
Maybe I'll try it out. It seems to be working *really* well for  
you.

(beat)  
Can I help?

SARAH  
Sure.

He stands next to her. He picks up a few nails and hands them to her one by one. She nails more boards into the wall.

DAVID  
What are you keeping out?

SARAH  
Inner demons

DAVID  
Fuck you.  
No, really

ROSE (O.S.)  
David! Stop swearing

SARAH  
Do you really want to know?

DAVID  
Yeah.

SARAH  
Just the former king of England

DAVID  
Which one

SARAH  
Henry VIII

DAVID  
Wow. You've actually gone crazy. Does mom know?

SARAH  
You just told her.

DAVID  
Yeah but she only hears me when I say the words she's listening for. Like fuck, shit, Jesus Christ

ROSE (O.S.)  
David!

DAVID  
See?

SARAH  
Eh, she's not listening to me either.

DAVID  
Of course she is.

SARAH

Not really.

Here I am, nailing shit to the wall and she hasn't checked up on me.

DAVID

She probably thinks you're doing a school project or something. When have you ever done something you're not supposed to?

Well. Other than your weird freak out last night.

Rose enters

ROSE

SARAH what are you working on?

Beat. She looks at David. Accusatory

David, what is this?

DAVID

What do you mean??

She's the one with the hammer. This isn't even my room!

ROSE

(She looks around the room)

I guess you're right.  
Sarah?

SARAH

It's uh...school project

ROSE

What is the project

SARAH

Its for art class.

Rose looks at the both of them.

ROSE

And David is helping?

SARAH

Yup.

ROSE

Ok. Have fun.

She exits

DAVID

I would be mad if I wasn't the MOST right

SARAH

It's just so weird.  
I should be grounded and she's barely done anything.

DAVID

Wait. Why should you be grounded?

SARAH

I smashed my guitar during band practice.

DAVID

Like. On purpose?

SARAH

Yeah.

DAVID

Holy shit. I wanna smash a guitar.  
Wait. So why the hell aren't you grounded?

SARAH

I don't know.

DAVID

That's so unfair! I would have been grounded!  
Well. I guess you don't really go anywhere.

SARAH

That's what Mom said. She also said some other stuff.

DAVID

Other stuff?

SARAH

Like.  
Ok she told me not to tell you.  
But apparently we don't have a lot of money right now. And it sounds like it has to do with Dad's job.

DAVID

Well no shit. Mom hasn't made a full meal in months.  
And I guess that makes sense. I saw Dad at the mall once. But like in the middle of the day when he said he was going to work. And I can't tell Mom because she'll know I was skipping school.

SARAH

Damn.

DAVID

Yeah.  
So tell me more about Henry



SARAH

He's an obnoxious piece of shit who only I can see

DAVID

Have you told anyone else about this?

SARAH

No, and please don't.  
I've got enough to deal with.

DAVID

(long beat. He hands her  
another nail)

I don't believe in God because I just don't.

SARAH

You never questioned it?

DAVID

I don't think so.  
I do remember when I realized it.  
It was our last summer at church camp.  
I remember we were singing a religious cover of Louie Louie.

SARAH

I remember that song

DAVID

Of course you do it was terrible its seared into my memory  
forever.  
Well, we were singing that song in a circle.  
And I remember looking around the circle at all the other  
kids who were having so much fun singing this horrible song.  
And I got this weird feeling. Like everyone in the circle  
believed all this shit and I was the only one who ever  
questioned it. And so I asked Mom if I could stop going.  
I don't think she would have let me if you hadn't also asked  
to stop going too.

(beat)

Why did you?

SARAH

Everyone there always acted like religion was this  
competition. Who could pray the most, sing the loudest, be  
the most *profound*. I just didn't like it anymore.  
I felt like I was losing all the time.

DAVID

You used to have a nice singing voice.  
Even if the words were stupid.

(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)  
 (He looks down)  
 Ran out of nails

SARAH  
 Does this look sturdy?

DAVID  
 Yeah. I think it'll keep Henry out.

They admire their work. It looks terrible

SARAH  
 It looks good.  
 Thank you.

They have never thanked one another in their entire lives. It doesn't feel right.

DAVID  
 What did you just say?

SARAH  
 I don't know.  
 Whatever, uh. Fuck you

DAVID  
 Go suck a dick

SARAH  
 Jackoff.

David flips her off as he exits her room. SARAH closes her door and sighs a sigh of relief. She sits on her bed.

SCENE 9- THE TRAITOR

ROSE (O.S.)  
 SARAH! Ruth is here!

SARAH  
 Already?

She goes to open her door. Ruth is already standing on the other side.

RUTH  
 Hi

SARAH  
 Oh my God!  
 Ruth you scared the crap out of me

RUTH

Sorry.  
Just excited for this playdate to get started!  
You really shouldn't say the lord's name in vain by the way.

SARAH

(Closing the door)

Yeah I know. I guess I should try to stop but-

Ruth corners her and gets up in her face.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Uh. Hi.

RUTH

What's the big idea, huh?

SARAH

What?

RUTH

You think you can start being the star all of a sudden?

SARAH

I have no idea/

RUTH

/having the right answers at Sunday school, joining the church band before me?  
And then, before I can even catch my breath, you're acting like some kind of psycho?

SARAH

Uh--

RUTH

You've suddenly become the most interesting person at the church and I will not stand for it!

SARAH

Hey! Listen I'm sorry. I don't mean to be so--  
Interesting.

Ruth eyes her and backs up.

RUTH

Ok listen, here's what's gonna happen. Next time there's a question in class, I'm gonna answer it. And if anyone's gonna steal the show and have a solo in the band, it's me.

SARAH

Ok! Ok.

RUTH

Ok.

(beat)

So what do you wanna do.

SARAH

What? I thought we were gonna talk about confirm/ation

RUTH

/Really? I already did that shit.

She plops herself on the bed.

RUTH (CONT'D)

So where's your stash?

SARAH

My what?

RUTH

Like your alcohol? Do you smoke?

SARAH

I don't have--

RUTH

Oh. Oh well then good thing I brought my own.

She pulls a bottle out of her bag and  
takes a swig.

SARAH

Ruth. I'm sorry. But I think my brain is broken or something--

RUTH

Oh! Right sorry I should have explained better.  
I'm not some, bubbly, religious freak.

SARAH

Oh. I didn't/

RUTH

/Yeah. But hey, it's cool. Whatever. Now you know.

SARAH

Well. You're a great actress.

RUTH

Thanks. I'm in drama club so.

SARAH

Yeah. Wait so. Those songs?

RUTH

Yeah! I actually wrote those. They're stupid.  
But they're clever. And they really drive home the whole  
believing Jesus thing.

(beat)

Man, I bet I'm kinda blowing your mind right now.

SARAH

Does anyone else know?

RUTH

Oooooohh yeaaaah.  
Like all of my school friends. And ski club. Oh, and my  
dentist I think.  
And David.

SARAH

My brother David?

RUTH

Yeah. David was the first person to figure me out, actually.  
He cornered me during church camp one year and demanded I  
tell him if I actually believed in God or whatever and I  
don't know, I just kinda broke down and told him.  
But I swore him to secrecy

(beat)

It was kinda hot/

SARAH

/Ew/ He's younger than us.

RUTH

/Don't tell him I said that  
Whatever. Just by a year.

SARAH

I always just figured you were like your mom-

RUTH

Ugh. No.  
You know what? I don't even wanna talk about my mom.

SARAH

But why fake it? There's not much need to. At least not at  
our church

RUTH

You dont get it. My mom she's.  
I dont know, I dont wanna talk about it.

SARAH

ok.

RUTH

Ok, fine!  
She's intense. Like reaaaally intense. Like she watches me pray and gives me notes on it. She takes me to other churches so she can brag about how her organ playing is better. I mean, she completely scared my dad away.

SARAH

oh

RUTH

Yeah  
And you wanna know something fucked up?  
I think he's totally screwing Gail.

SARAH

Oboe Gail?

RUTH

Who else!  
I saw my dad in the church parking lot once and I know it wasn't to go to service or see my mom.  
Anyway fuck him.

SARAH

You dont even like your mom

RUTH

No I fucking love her. Shes psycho. And I hate her. But I love her ya know.  
Someday shes gonna get old and Im gonna have to wipe her ass and shes gonna critique how well I do it.  
But thats her. My dad should have known what he was signing up for.

SARAH

(laughing)

Oh my God.  
You are a total mamas girl

RUTH

I am not!

SARAH

You must have Stockholms syndrome or something

RUTH

Shut up!

(They laugh.)

Its not that weird. You're faking it too. Or at least trying to.

SARAH

I'm not faking. And I am really trying.  
I'm, I dont know. I dont know what Im doing.  
I want to believe, it just doesnt feel like anything Im doing  
is right.

RUTH

Nothing is right.  
You just gotta fake it till the person youre doing it for  
dies.

SARAH

I don't think I can do that.

RUTH

Well if you're truly doing it for yourself, you know.

(She shrugs)

Knock yourself out.

SARAH

I want to feel about religion how it makes my mom feel. Like  
I know she's been through some shit but she's still so good.  
I want to be like that.

RUTH

Yeah.  
But also like. She's probably not good.

SARAH

What does that mean?

RUTH

Like she's probably hiding stuff that you don't know about.

SARAH

I know. I think somethings going on with my Dad.

RUTH

Oh, something's going on with all of our Dads.  
But seriously. There's always something else going on.  
And I mean you didn't even know about me. So like. Ya know?

Rose knocks on the door and then opens  
it. Ruth straightens her shoulders

ROSE

Can I get you girls anything?

RUTH

I'm so still so full from dinner, but thank you so much Mrs.  
Walsh.

ROSE  
You're welcome

She closes the door.

RUTH  
You better not tell anyone.

David knocks on the door.

DAVID  
Yo its me

(Sarah opens the door)  
Hey what's up Ruth

RUTH  
Oh, ya know.

She hits her ponytail

DAVID  
Right right.  
I didnt know you were coming over

RUTH  
Yeah, your mom thought I would be a good influence on your sister

DAVID  
Ha. What a fucking joke.

ROSE (O.S.)  
David! Please don't swear.  
Especially when we have a guest over.

RUTH  
Its a bit of a fucking joke.

Rose doesn't seem to hear that one.

DAVID  
Did you see Sarah's closet?

RUTH  
What?

She looks to the boarded-up closet.  
Oh. How the hell did I miss that.

SARAH  
Oh, I just. It just was making sounds at night.



RUTH  
So you boarded the whole thing?

SARAH  
I'm a light sleeper

DAVID  
Oh, come on, you can tell Ruth, she's cool.

SARAH  
I'm keeping out someone.

RUTH  
Ghosts?

(Sarah nods.)  
What kind of ghosts

DAVID  
Oh you know, just your typical.  
What was it? King of England? Henry the...

SARAH  
Eighth

RUTH  
Henry VIII?

DAVID  
Yup!

SARAH  
I'm keeping out Henry VIII.

RUTH  
That makes sense.

The closet door shakes slightly.

RUTH (CONT'D)  
Holy shit.

ROSE  
Ruth! Your mother is here!

RUTH  
Ok, uh. See you really soon Sarah!  
You are coming to practice, right?

SARAH  
Unfortunately.

RUTH

I would offer you a ride but my mom is really weird about letting people in her car.

She hugs Sarah. It's awkward but nice.  
Friendship? Ruth exits.

DAVID

Are you two like. Friends now or something?

SARAH

I have no idea. Nothing is how it should be. So why not.

DAVID

Yeah.

SARAH

She likes you. *Like* likes you.

DAVID

Shut up, no she doesn't

(beat)

Why. What did she say about me?

SARAH

No, gross, never mind. I am not talking about this with you.

(to Rose)

Ok mom I'm gonna walk to practice now!

ROSE

Ok honey!

She leaves. David joins Rose in the kitchen. She's doing dishes.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Do you want to help your mother do the dishes?

DAVID

(sitting at the kitchen table)  
No.

ROSE

You know, I should have made you play in that band.

DAVID

With what instrument?

ROSE

Your tuba!  
Gail has her weird big clarinet thingy so/

DAVID

/It's an oboe.  
And are you serious? I haven't played the tuba in three years.

ROSE

But we go to all those school concerts.

DAVID

Yeah. For Sarah.

ROSE

Oh.  
Well, you never practiced to begin with.  
I guess I just didn't notice when you stopped--

DAVID

I know Sarah is your favorite but you could at least act like she's not.

ROSE

Excuse you?  
Sarah is not my favorite--  
I love you both so much. For different reasons.  
Hey. Come here.

She tries to hug him but he pushes away.

DAVID

Mom-- mom stop!  
Stop--

The doorbell rings. It's Ruth.

ROSE

Oh, hi Ruth. Did your mother change her mind about driving Sarah? I think she just left.

RUTH

No, sorry. I think I forgot my favorite water bottle in Sarah's room.

ROSE

Oh ok. Do you know what it looks like? I can run up and grab it.

RUTH

No! Um, I mean, that's ok I can just--

ROSE

Oh don't be silly, keep your shoes on I'll just go see if I can find it.

Rose runs up to Sarah's room.

RUTH  
Shoot. Ok this is fine. This is fine.

DAVID  
Hey.

RUTH  
Hey.

DAVID  
How's it going

RUTH  
Oh, ya know.

DAVID  
Totally.

Rose is looking through Sarah's room.  
She stops for a moment and stares at  
Sarah's closet. She inspects it.

DAVID (CONT'D)

(hushed)  
You left your vodka here?

RUTH  
Yeah

DAVID  
Cool

RUTH  
I think you're pretty cool too.

They stare deeply into each others  
eyes.

Upstairs, Rose has located Ruth's  
bottle. It's open and she splashes a  
little on herself. She pauses and takes  
a sniff of the bottle.

HENRY (V.O.)  
"Judas betrayed him with a kiss on the cheek"

Ruth kisses David on the cheek.

Rose comes down, holding the bottle out  
in front of her.

ROSE  
Ruth? Can I talk to-- oh

RUTH  
  
(startled)  
Jesus fuck

ROSE  
Excuse you?

David backs away from both of them.

RUTH  
I -uh. I didn't say anything

ROSE  
Did you just say what I think you said?  
And the alcohol. And David--  
Ruth did you bring alcohol into my house?

RUTH  
No! Of course not I would never

ROSE  
Then what is this?

RUTH  
Oh uh. I was-- that? Oh that's Sarah's

ROSE  
Well I've never seen it before and I do all the dishes.

DAVID  
It's true.

RUTH  
Ok. Fine!  
It's mine.

ROSE  
I hope you know I'm going to tell your mother about this.

RUTH  
No! She-- well,  
Sarah has been keeping things from you too!

ROSE  
What?

RUTH  
Yeah, I mean, why do you think she boarded up her closet?

ROSE

That's for an art project.

RUTH

What art project? How would that be for an art project? Think about what you just said

ROSE

Well then what is she keeping in there?

RUTH

She was bugging out earlier. She said she was hiding a ghost in there.

ROSE

David? What do you know about this?

DAVID

I don't know anything.

RUTH

Yes you do! You helped her!

Shannon honks from outside.

SHANNON (O.S.)

Ruth! Come on! We're gonna be late!

ROSE

Ruth I think you should go.

RUTH

Are you going to tell my mom?

ROSE

I don't know. Just. Just go.

Ruth leaves. David attempts to go past his mother.

ROSE (CONT'D)

David. What's going on with your sister?

DAVID

I don't know mom. Maybe you would if you ever listened to her.

He goes to his room.

ROSE

What is that supposed to--

Rose sniffs the bottle again. She takes a sip and puts it down.

She goes back into Sarah's room and looks over the closet. She leaves and comes back with an axe.

ROSE (CONT'D)

John! I'm borrowing one of your tools!

She swings the axe into the closet. She breaks down the boards and pulls at the splinters. A giant hole is left. She looks inside and finds Sarah's Journaling Bible. She starts to look through it but stops herself.

ROSE (CONT'D)

No. What am I doing?  
I'm not this kind of Mom.

She sits on the floor with the axe.

Henry emerges from the closet, unnoticed by Rose.

HENRY

(whispering)

Yikes

He snatches the journal and sneaks out of the room.

#### SCENE 10 - THE CRUCIFIXTION

Sunday school classroom.

Sarah enters. She looks around the room. Pastor Ann enters with a guitar.

ANN

Sarah!

Sarah is startled and turns around.

SARAH

Pastor Ann!

ANN

You've gotta get better spatial awareness.  
The world is a scary place.

(Beat. Swallow.)

I took a women's self-defense class a couple of years ago.  
I like to go on night walks.  
So. Anywho.

SARAH

Yeah.

ANN

What person did you end up focusing on for Sunday school?

SARAH

Sarah

ANN

That makes sense. Do you feel prepared for confirmation?

SARAH

Not really

ANN

Hm. Well, here's the guitar.  
It's not as nice as yours but it'll work.  
It was my first one.

SARAH

Oh. Thanks.

ANN

You know, if you don't want to be in this band, you don't  
have to be,

SARAH

Yes I do.

ANN

Is that what your Mom said?  
She was probably frustrated.

SARAH

Yeah.

ANN

Well. No hard feelings.  
If anything it was a little metal. I liked it.  
This band was becoming a snooze fest.

Sarah pulls the guitar out of it's  
case. It's covered in stickers.

ANN (CONT'D)

Sorry about the stickers.  
Thought those were cool back in the day.

SARAH

(looking at them)

I wouldn't expect you to be into some of these bands.



ANN

Oh, well I haven't always been some old lady pastor. I was cool once.

SARAH

Oh yeah?

ANN

Oh yeah. I partied, and messed around, drank a lot. Went to college. Dropped out. Got married. Got divorced.

SARAH

I didn't know you were married.

ANN

Oh yeah. Incredibly married.  
And then incredibly divorced.

SARAH

So wait. When did you become a Pastor?

ANN

There was a point when I was trying to decide my future in the church. And the moment when I really figured it out, was the moment I wasn't really thinking about it. It suddenly all just made more sense when I stopped judging myself and my thoughts so much.  
When you finally accept God, really accept him, you can start to forgive yourself for being an imperfect person because we all are. And he forgives you.

(Beat)

Does that make sense?

SARAH

It actually kind of does.

ANN

But it still doesn't sound like it's for you?

SARAH

I don't know.

ANN

And that's ok.  
When I didn't know anything, and my life was falling apart, I realized I had this incredible opportunity to start over and live my life how I couldn't before.

SARAH

You seem like the last person to question your faith

ANN

Oh, everybody does. If you never really test it, then there's no way to tell it's strength.

(beat)

She may not seem like it, but your mom struggled with her faith too.

SARAH

Really?

Henry enters the room, but stays behind Sarah, he keeps his back to the wall. He looks through the journal.

ANN

Oh yeah, she wasn't really liking her experience at the Catholic church, she felt so stuck there are I showed her there can be another way. You know, to God and religion and all that.

HENRY

She showed her that there can be another way!

SARAH

What? Wait! Henry, I-

HENRY

"The Betrayal of Jesus"

SARAH gets dizzy.

ANN

Yeah, there was a time when we were pretty close, Friends.

HENRY

Pretty close FRIENDS?!

The word "friends" echos through their heads. It hits SARAH like cannon. The rest of the band comes in. Ruth, Shannon, and Gail come in and start rocking out. Henry dresses himself as Rose.

SARAH

Friends?

ANN

Yeah.

Voices enter Sarah's head. She is hit by each statement. She is literally punched with each statement.

ANN (CONT'D)

Friends

HENRY (ROSE)

"It just got to be too much"

ANN

"I miss seeing her around"

HENRY (ROSE)

"John! Dinner!"

ANN

"How is your mom?"

HENRY (ROSE)

"Wait for your father

ANN

"I showed her there can be another way"

HENRY (ROSE)

"I don't know why she would say that"

SARAH

(Bloody and beaten)

You and my mom?

She falls to the ground. The music stops. Henry leaves.

ANN

Sarah! SARAH!

RUTH

Goodness, is she ok?

SARAH gasps and sits up.

ANN

SARAH! You just passed out are you ok?

SARAH

I-

Shannon comes up and puts a water bottle in her mouth.

Mom! Let her breathe  
 RUTH

She needs water  
 SHANNON

Should we call her mom?  
 GAIL

No!  
 No. Im fine.  
 SARAH

Her face is covered in blood.  
 SARAH (CONT'D)

Im completely fine.  
 ANN

Are you sure?  
 Im sorry. Was it something I said?  
 SARAH

I think I was just dehydrated.  
 She wipes the blood from her face

So I'm good now.  
 SHANNON

I trust her.  
 We need to practice as is. And we cant really do this without her.

You're ok?  
 RUTH

Yeah. I'm great  
 SARAH

Lets practice!  
 Shannon helps her up. She stays clear of Ann who also reaches out to help her.  
 She picks up the guitar.

Alright, everyone!  
 You heard her!  
 SHANNON

1,2,3,4  
 ANN

Its a super upbeat version of Christ  
the Lord has Risen Today.

RUTH & SHANNON

CHRIST THE LORD HAS RISEN TODAY  
ALLELU-

SHANNON

WAIT! We can't say that word until after Easter.

RUTH

Oh!  
Mom you are so right.  
Ladies. We can't say

(hushed)

Alleluia.  
During Lent.

ANN

Oh, I don't know if well get in trouble with the big guy  
upstairs for practicing.

SHANNON

Well you guys can sing it, but I wont be.  
Lets just leave that word out.

ANN

Ok Shannon.  
1,2,3,4

SHANNON & RUTH

CHRIST THE LORD HAS RISEN TODAY

(Humming Alleluia)

HM-HM-MM-HM-MM-OOO-AAAA  
SONS OF MEN AND ANGLES SAY  
HM-HM-MM-HM-MM-OOO-AAAA

The song continues. Ann is staring at  
Sarah.

ANN

I'm sorry!

SARAH

No you're not!

ANN

No I'm not!

The Easter bunny comes in.Sarah starts  
running away from him in circles. He  
takes off his head and its HENRY

SARAH  
I thought I got rid of you!

HENRY  
You knew it couldn't be that easy!  
You didn't even properly crucify me before shoving me in my  
tomb.  
Now you must decide!

SARAH  
I cant! My mom is gay!

HENRY  
What!?

SHANNON AND RUTH  
  
(Continuing the song)  
HM-HM-MM-HM-MM-OOO-AAAA

SARAH  
Yeah!  
At least I think so!

HENRY  
Well then you can't trust her!

ANN  
SARAH, cant you see?

SARAH  
Shut up!

SHANNON AND RUTH  
  
(Continuing the song)  
HM-HM-MM-HM-MM-OOO-AAAA

ANN  
This isnt what God is about!

SARAH  
Then what is all of this?

ANN  
Forgive yourself!

SARAH  
Shut up!

ANN  
You are an imperfect human!

No, you are!  
Shut up!  
You fucked my mom!

SARAH

STOP. EVERYBODY HEARD THAT.

What.

ANN

You.

SARAH

Oh,

Shes no longer running. When did Henry disappear?

What did you just say?

SHANNON

Sarah, I-

ANN

Oh my goodness.

GAIL

SARAH runs out.

Ann, did you fu-

SHANNON

LIGHTS OUT

SCENE 11- DENIAL IN THE COURTYARD/ RESSURECTION

Sarah's room. She rushes in, seeing that the closet has been broken down.

Henry! What the hell

SARAH

Rose enters behind her.

Who is Henry

ROSE

Did you knock down my-- my art project?

SARAH

Oh, stop it. I know it's not an art project. And why did I just receive yet another phone call from Shannon.

ROSE

(MORE)

ROSE (CONT'D)

This time saying that you passed out during practice and then after getting up, accused Pastor Ann of- You know what I can't even say it.

SARAH

You can't say what?

ROSE

Don't/

SARAH

/Is it true?

ROSE

No of course not, its so completely ridiculous Have you completely forgotten about your father?

SARAH

I dont know.  
Have you?  
Where has dad been?  
Dad? DAD!

ROSE

Stop yelling he left to get some parts to fix the toilet

SARAH

I bet he did!

ROSE

Sarah, I don't know what Pastor Ann has been saying to you. Or whatever strange drama has been happening in that band. But it is not at all what you think this is.

SARAH

Then what is it!

ROSE

I met her when I was in a really bad place.

SARAH

I don't want to hear about it

ROSE

I was having a super hard time having kids.

SARAH

Oh God here we go

ROSE

And I wanted your father to be more understanding than he was! And Pastor Ann was very kind to me.



SARAH

Oh nooo.

ROSE

We would spend time together almost every day, talking about faith and the Bible and Jesus Christ Superstar and baby names.

SARAH

Wait. So Pastor Ann had a say in what my *name* was gonna be?!

ROSE

I mean I was the one who picked it but--  
And I converted once you were born. It seemed like a sign!  
But you need to know that the second she made her feelings known, I left the vestry and started teaching Sunday school.  
Which is why we don't talk a lot anymore.  
But this church is so important to me and--

SARAH

Wait so you two never--

ROSE

No! I mean-- no.  
So who is Henry

Henry enters the room. He has the journal.

HENRY

"Peter's Denial of Jesus"

SARAH

I don't know what you're talking about

Chime. Denial 1.

ROSE

Ruth was saying you were talking about ghosts and seeing things.  
Is Henry something you see?

SARAH

I've never seen anything

Chime. Denial 2.

ROSE

I'm just worried about you.

SARAH

Is that why you destroyed my room?

ROSE

Do you know how it feels to feel so out of the loop in my own home? My own church?

SARAH

Are you kidding?

ROSE

Sarah. Who is Henry?

SARAH

I don't know!

Chime. Denial 3.

The rooster crows.

The world shakes. Rose disappears.  
Henry enters. Crash! Sick guitar riff!

HENRY

Sarah

SARAH

"Rabboni! (Which means teacher)"

HENRY

No it's me. Henry

SARAH

Right. I'm not sure why I said/

HENRY

/"Don't cling to me! For I have not yet ascended to the father"  
Ugh I'm doing it too now.

SARAH

Ok! Let's stop quoting the bible.

(beat)

What did you do with my mom

HENRY

I know. You guys were really having a heart to heart there .  
But you denied me three times. So I came back. I am a man of my word

SARAH

But you've already come back. I saw you at band practice

HENRY

Yeah but. That was like a little visit and this is more of a thing

SARAH

You aren't very good at this are you

HENRY

Oh, who cares what order anything happens in as long as, in the end, everything happens.

SARAH

Henry. Where is my mom

HENRY

Oh don't worry about her. She's probably doing the dishes. And she's not the only person you should be worried about.

SARAH

What? What did you do?

HENRY

It's been a long time since you saw Ruth. Our very own Judas. I wonder what happened to her. Gosh, if I could only remember what happened to Judas in the bible?

SARAH

No.

HENRY

Yes

SARAH

She... she committed suicide?

HENRY

No! Of course not. God, is that what happens to Judas in the Bible? No. Anyway!

SARAH

Anyway! Take me to them! Bring back my mom and Ruth.

HENRY

Ok, ok.

I hope you're ready for your confirmation

SARAH

What?

#### SCENE 12- CONFIRMATION

Turn to page 412 of your book of common prayer. We are at the church altar. There are two torches on either side of it. Everyone is holding candles. This is Easter Vigil. Ever heard of it?

The band is softly playing an Easter processional hymn. They all look to be in a trance. David and Rose are nowhere to be found. Sarah looks unsure where she should be. Henry is gone.

Sarah locates Ruth, facing away from her playing the tambourine.

SARAH

Ruth! Ruth?

Ruth turns around. Her hair is different. Her bangs are choppy and too short. She has clearly cut them herself. She talks robotically.

RUTH

Sarah.

SARAH

Are you ok?

RUTH

I cut my own bangs in a moment of stress after telling your mother about Henry.

SARAH

Why do you sound like that?

SHANNON

Sarah. Grab the guitar and join us.

ANN

Join us.

GAIL

Join us. The bishop is coming.

SARAH

Has anyone seen my mom and my brother. Wait. That's not--

Henry, dressed as the Bishop comes down the aisle. He stops behind the altar.

HENRY

Please be seated.

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites *her* members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

(MORE)

HENRY (CONT'D)

Let us pray. O God, through your Son you have--  
oh Christ this is long. Uh--  
bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light:  
uhhhh.

(flipping through pages)  
Not important. Ok. Confirmation!  
Alleluia. Christ is risen.

EVERYONE  
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

HENRY  
There is one Body and one Spirit

EVERYONE  
There is one hope in Gods call to us

HENRY  
The Lord be with you

EVERYONE  
And also with you.

HENRY  
The Candidates will now be presented.

Ruth gets up next to him.

SARAH  
Henry! What do you think you're doing??  
Where is my family?

HENRY  
(ignoring her)  
I present these persons to be received into this Communion.

SARAH  
I'm not doing this! I'm not playing this game!

ROSE (O.S.)  
Sarah!?

SARAH  
Mom?

HENRY  
Shit

SARAH  
Mom!

ROSE  
We're up here!

SARAH  
(looking up)  
Oh. My. God.

Rose and David are brought down from the ceiling. They are both tied to crucifixes.

DAVID  
Sarah, what the hell is this.

ROSE  
Sarah what's happening? Do you know this man?

SARAH  
Yeah mom. This is Henry.

HENRY  
Henry VIII! Former king of England and Supreme Head of the Anglican Church.

RUTH  
Just confirm yourself, Sarah. It's so easy.

SARAH  
Ruth, he's not the Bishop! He's an imposter!

RUTH  
But he has the pointy Bishop hat on.

Sarah tries to lunge at Henry to grab his hat but he pushes her down.

ROSE  
Sweetie I am so sorry! This is all my fault! I should have known something was going on with you. And I should have been honest.

SARAH  
What do you mean?

HENRY  
You really think nothing happened between Rose and Pastor Ann? I didn't just pull that out of my ass, Sarah.

SARAH  
You lied to me? Even when I asked you?

ROSE

I can't tell you everything just yet.  
You're my daughter and I need to protect you.

(beat)

But I'm sorry. It's true. Pastor Ann and I kissed. Once! 16 years ago!

DAVID

Wait WHAT? Pastor Ann and Mom?

ROSE

I'm so sorry, David.

DAVID

Way to go, Mom.

SARAH

Really, David?

ROSE

Oh whatever old man! You're just jealous!

HENRY

Maybe I am! I mean look at her!

Ann is sitting frozen, still in a  
trance at the drum set.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Like, come on.

(beat)

Ok! Got side tracked there! Back to confirmation.

Sarah goes to the guitar that was left  
for her and straps it on.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Wait what are you doing?

Sarah strums the guitar. She looks to  
her mother, who is now trying to free  
herself.

HENRY (CONT'D)

What? You think playing some songs is gonna stop me?

SARAH

I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT  
I WANT TO FOLLOW JESUS  
GOD SENT THE STARS TO GIVE LIGHT TO THE WORLD  
THE STAR OF MY LIFE IS JESUS

Rose has broken the rope tying her to the cross. She hops down and grabs a torch from beside the altar.

HENRY

What? This was the big moment? You singing?

ROSE

I think her voice is lovely!

Rose hits him over the back of the head with the torch, knocking off his Bishop's hat. The trance is broken.

GAIL

Wait! That's not the Bishop!

SHANNON

Oh my! She's right! Who are you strange man?

HENRY

You bitch! This could have all gone perfectly! But you've ruined it all!.

He stumbles and grabs the other torch. Rose backs away from him. Ruth grabs a hymnal and runs towards the action.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Now everyone in this godforsaken church will pay for it!

He goes towards Rose with the torch. She is cornered. He holds the torch over his head.

RUTH

Mrs. Walsh!

Ruth jumps on his back and hits him repeatedly with the hymnal. He turns in circles. Rose gets away.

Ruth hops off of him and grabs the other torch.

SHANNON

Ruthie!

RUTH

We just finished learning stage combat in drama club. I was born for this!

ANN

1,2,3,4!



The band starts playing "He is Risen". Sarah gets closer to him as he fights Ruth.

HENRY

You will be confirmed!

SARAH

Not by you I won't be!

HENRY

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

SARAH

I do. And you are that evil.

HENRY

Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

SARAH

I don't know!

Henry over takes Ruth, pushing the torch out of her hands. The band stops playing. He's holding his torch over her, preparing for a final blow. Before he can, Sarah comes up and hits him over the head with Ann's guitar.

He falls to the ground.

ANN

We witnesses will do all in our power to support these persons in their life of Christ!  
Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant!

SARAH

(to Henry)

I'm going to confirm. But first I'm going to damn you back to where you came from!

Long beat. Crescendo. Sarah takes a deep breath.

SARAH (CONT'D)

I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT  
I WANT TO FOLLOW JESUS  
GOD SENT THE STARS TO GIVE LIGHT TO THE WORLD  
THE STAR OF MY LIFE IS JESUS

HENRY

Sarah--

ANN AND SHANNON AND SARAH  
 IN HIM THERE IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL  
 THE NIGHT AND THE DAY ARE BOTH ALIKE  
 THE LAMB IS THE LIGHT OF THE CITY OF GOD

SARAH

I'm not your bitch henry. I'm not one of your wives!

ANN AND SHANNON

SHINE IN MY HEART, LORD JESUS.

Henry has been defeated. The song is over. Ruth climbs up and unties David before giving him a sloppy drama club kid type kiss. Everyone rushes to Sarah, except for Gail. She's packing up her Oboe.

ROSE

Honey, Are you ok?

DAVID

That was awesome!

SHANNON

I'm going to call the police

Shannon exits.

ANN

Gail, are you kidding?

GAIL

I can't just leave this thing laying around! Especially with that maniac.

ANN

Ok. Well. I think it's fair to say confirmation will be postponed.

RUTH

I think that's all the confirmation we need!

ANN

It was pretty cool. But seriously, in the eyes of the church, you guys still have to go through the official ceremony. But, that can be dealt with another time. I'm glad everyone is safe.

Shannon comes back in.

SHANNON

Ok they're on their way they said to just keep an eye on--  
Wait. Where did he go?

Henry is gone.

ANN

I have no idea. He was laying there just a second ago.

SHANNON

Well we can't have him just running through the neighborhood!  
Ruth, grab your jacket, we're gonna go look for him.

ANN

Good idea. I'll go with you guys.

GAIL

I would but I'm getting brunch with my new boo and I need to  
drop off my Oboe at home.

SHANNON

Are you serious Gail? There is a mad man out there!

GAIL

Well I'll have you know that/

RUTH

/Mom-- let's just go

(to Sarah)

Happy Easter by the way

SARAH

Happy Easter Ruth.

RUTH

You too David.

DAVID

Uh. Yeah.

Ruth and Shannon leave. Gail goes the  
other way with her Oboe. Rose and David  
sit next to Sarah on the Altar.

ANN

I'll let you know if we find him.  
Oh and Rose, I'm sorry/

ROSE

/We can talk about it another time.

ANN

Well, um. Happy Easter.

Ann exits. The Walsh's sit on the altar steps.

ROSE

Are you worried that he's still in the church?

SARAH

No. He's gone. I can feel it.

They sit in silence for a moment.

DAVID

So you weren't crazy.

ROSE

I'm sorry Sarah.

SARAH

It's ok. I wasn't sure he was real myself so. It's all good.

ROSE

Oh. He had this.

She pulls out the Journaling Bible.

SARAH

Oh yeah. You know in all this chaos I never got have a confirmation speech.

ROSE

Do you want to?

SARAH

I never wrote one.

ROSE

Oh.

SARAH

I could give one off the top of my head.

ROSE

Sure!

She stands in front of them

SARAH

As Episcopalians, we are asked to confirm ourselves under God. To state our faith in front of the entire church. Or in my case, you two. But up until this point I wasn't sure if I could really do that and be honest about it. And part of me still isn't. But with this church and with my family, I destroyed something evil.

(MORE)

SARAH (CONT'D)

Through singing stupid church songs, kicking ass, worrying about money, and realizing that your mom might be a little gay; I know that they will be there for me. So even if I don't know anything, I believe in my family and my church, and if they believe in God then I supposed I do to by extension.

DAVID

Ruth's speech would have been better.

Rose hugs Sarah and drags David into the hug.

ROSE

I love you two.

DAVID

Can we go home and get our Easter baskets?

ROSE

Sure.

(to Sarah)

I really am sorry. I should have believed you.

SARAH

It was unbelievable.

ROSE

So is some of the stuff I ask you to believe.

DAVID

Come on, stop being gay I wanna go home!

SARAH

Hey! Don't say stuff like that our Mother is gay!

DAVID

Wait. So like. Are you?

ROSE

Let's get some candy, huh?!

Rose exits

DAVID

Wait, is she for real?

SARAH

I have no idea.

DAVID

Wait! Mom! Are you and Dad getting divorced?

SARAH

Mom!

DAVID

She can't seriously think that this is ending here.

Rose comes back in.

ROSE

It's ending here.

BLACK OUT.

END OF PLAY.