

Heather Conway  
Gregory Conway  
Matthew Conway  
Lisa Conway  
Delilah Oakley  
Brian Oakley  
Dr. Kenneth Allen  
Officer Knight  
Officer Morning

ACT ONE SCENE ONE

*Brian and Matthew are half naked on the bed kissing and touching each other.*

HEATHER

*(Enters, screeches)* What in Mary's name are you doing?

MATTHEW

*(Matthew and Brian embarrassedly cover themselves and then dress).* Mom, why didn't you knock?

HEATHER

This is my house, I don't have to. And why are you sinning in my home? I want the both of you to get dressed and come immediately downstairs. *(Black Out. When lights return Heather is seen on the phone).* Delilah, it's me.

DELILAH

*(Is seen holding a phone).* Oh goodness, what do you want?

HEATHER

Well, hello to you too.

DELILAH

Oh, I'm sorry, where are my manners. Oh, wait; according to you I don't have any. I'm just another low-class hussy.

HEATHER

Not today Delilah, this is serious. I need you to come over, NOW.

DELILAH

Who the hell you getting loud with? And don't tell me where to go, you ain't my daddy.

HEATHER

Delilah, I am so serious, I seriously need you to come over. It's urgent.

DELILAH

Well, what the hell is it?

HEATHER

It's your son.

DELILAH

What's wrong with him? Heather, what did you do to him?

HEATHER

I will explain everything as soon as you get over here. Please, just come.

DELILAH

This better be serious, Heather. I'll be there in a minute. *(Black out. When lights return Delilah and Heather are standing pacing the floor, while Matthew and Brian nervously sit on the couch. It's silent for some time before Delilah breaks it.)* I cannot describe how speechless I am. I can't even describe how disappointed I am in you.

HEATHER

Well, maybe if you set a better example for your son he wouldn't think what he did was okay.

DELILAH

What the hell is that supposed to mean?

HEATHER

I've seen the type of people you allow in your house. You cannot allow prostitutes, and drug addicts, and drag queens in your home and expect your son to be a respectable Christian.

DELILAH

What the hell is wrong with you? How dare you call my friends prostitutes and drug addicts?

HEATHER

So you admit you had a drag queen in your home?

DELILAH

I have a gay friend or two, but this has nothing to do with this.

HEATHER

Then how did your son know how to do what he was doing to my son?

DELILAH

Apparently your son knows just as much as mine does. They were doing it together.

HEATHER

Because your defiled son taught my son.

DELILAH

And how do you know your son is not the one who's defiled. I mean he used to be an altar boy?

HEATHER

Oh, you better go to confession for that remark. You deserve a slap for insulting God.

DELILAH

I did not insult God I insulted your stupid little religion.

HEATHER

It's just the same.

DELILAH

No its not. God is no where in the Catholic faith. I've read the bible and can't find a damn thing you people do in it. You're nothing but a bunch of hypocrites.

HEATHER

How dare you call me a hypocrite?! And how would you know what the bible says? You're a heathen.

DELILAH

Number one; you do not have to be a Christian to read the bible, you just have to have a middle school education. Secondly, as a Christian you are being very judgmental, something the bible says you are not supposed to do. At lastly I am not a heathen. Yes, I have sinned in my past, but who hasn't?

HEATHER

Well, no one has sinned as shamefully as you.

DELILAH

Oh, you just won't get over it, will you?

HEATHER

How can I get over it when he comes—

DELILAH

Twenty-One

HEATHER

Get out!

DELILAH

Don't get angry with me, this was your decision. We could easily tell them—

HEATHER

Get out!

DELILAH

Withholding the truth is the same as lying, you know? And that's a sin.

How dare you call me a liar?

HEATHER

I didn't say liar, but if the shoe fits...

DELILAH

I have never lied.

HEATHER

You just lied right now, dumbass.

DELILAH

Profanity! How dare you? I want you out. And I don't want you to ever return. Get out!

HEATHER

ACT ONE SCENE TWO

*Split scenes: Matthew and Heather; Brian and Delilah.*

DELILAH

My God that woman is in so much denial. *(Beat)*. What were you thinking? How the hell did you know how to have sex?

BRIAN

Mother, I'm not a baby.

DELILAH

The hell you are, you're only fifteen years old. What the fuck were you thinking. I ought to punch in the face. *(Lights fade and open on Matthew and Heather)*.

MATTHEW

Mother, I don't want to.

HEATHER

Read it! *(She hands him a bible)*. Open it. Leviticus eighteen and twenty-two. READ IT.

MATTHEW

*(Opens bible)* Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.

HEATHER

Acts 15 and 20.

MATTHEW

Mother!

HEATHER

Acts 15 and 20!

MATTHEW

*(Turns to scripture)* But should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood. *(Lights fade to Delilah and Brian)*.

DELILAH

How long have the two of you been doing this?

BRIAN

I don't know.

DELILAH

The hell you don't. HOW LONG?

BRIAN

I think about...three years now.

DELILAH

Shit. Three fucking years. Are you mental?!

BRIAN

Mother it's not that big a deal.

DELILAH

Are you shitting me? It's more than a big deal. Don't you understand what you've done? It's a sin.

BRIAN

Mother, since when do you care about sins? You do them everyday.

DELILAH

*(She slaps him).* Don't you ever talk back to me? You don't understand, Brian. You can't do these things. You're his...you're too young. *(Fades to Heather and Matthew)*

HEATHER

First Corinthians 10 and 8

MATTHEW

*(Turns to scripture)* We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.

HEATHER

First Corinthians 7 and 2

MATTHEW

*(Turns to scripture)* But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.

HEATHER

You hear that. Your own wife. You're not married. So you're supposed to abstain.

MATTHEW

Mother, please.

HEATHER

He put you up to this didn't he? I know he did. He comes from impurity. That's why I never wanted you to become friends with him. I knew one day that it would just end up in horror. His mother is a heathen. She has no moral values. She allows those...sinners

to enter her home. She never goes to church. And I know she doesn't pray like she supposed to. I can't believe he did this to you.

MATTHEW

Mother, would you please give it up?

HEATHER

No! For now on he is not allowed over here.

MATTHEW

Mother.

HEATHER

That's enough. What you have done is almost unforgivable.

MATTHEW

How's that possible? You forgave Father Mark Andrews.

HEATHER

Matthew, go to your room.

MATTHEW

What, why?

HEATHER

Go to your room!

MATTHEW

*(He goes to exit. He stops.)* Mom?

HEATHER

Go!

MATTHEW

May I just ask you a question?

HEATHER

What?

MATTHEW

What did Ms. Oakley mean when she said twenty-one?

HEATHER

Go!

DELILAH

I'm sorry for smacking you. I got a little out of hand. I know I haven't been the best example, but I have never endorsed you having sex at your age and you know it. No matter how bad I look I believe it's wrong. You're just too young. Don't you understand?

BRIAN

Yeah, ma. I'm sorry.

DELILAH

Good. Now go to your room.

BRIAN

Mom?

DELILAH

What, Brian?

BRIAN

What did you mean when you said twenty-one?

DELILAH

*(Thinks)* I'll tell you when you're twenty-one. Now go to your room and think about what you did. Brian, I'm disappointed in you.

ACT ONE SCENE THREE

*Matthew and Brian are seen on their phones.*

BRIAN

That was so embarrassing. I don't think I'll be able to look your mother in her eyes again.

MATTHEW

Don't worry. She doesn't want you over here.

BRIAN

I'm sorry we got caught.

MATTHEW

No, it was my fault. I should have locked the door.

BRIAN

So, how did your mother treat you when we left?

MATTHEW

You know exactly how she treated me. She shoved the bible down my throat.

BRIAN

My mother almost did the same.

MATTHEW

Seriously?

BRIAN

Yeah. I was completely shocked.

MATTHEW

That's weird. Your mother was always the complete opposite of mine. I figured she just tell you to be safe.

BRIAN

I know. Maybe your mother is rubbing off on mine.

MATTHEW

*(They both laugh).* I sure hope not. We don't need another Heather Conway in this world.

BRIAN

Are you grounded?

MATTHEW

No. I don't know. She didn't say. She just said go to your room. How about you?

BRIAN

I don't think so. I hope not.

MATTHEW

We'll probably never see each other again.

BRIAN

Yeah, well, except at school.

MATTHEW

*(Thinks)* What do you think of the bathrooms?

BRIAN

No. I think we should lay low for a bit. I've never seen my mother that upset with me.

MATTHEW

Do you think we did something really wrong?

BRIAN

Yeah, I guess. I don't know. What do you think?

MATTHEW

My mother says it is, but she didn't...never mind. I'll see you in school.

BRIAN

Yeah, see ya later.

ACT ONE SCENE FOUR

*Matthew is sitting across from Kenneth.*

KENNETH

So, we're here for an hour. We could either talk or continue to sit here in silence. Which one do you want to do?

MATTHEW

*(Slight pause)*. I don't need counseling.

KENNETH

Well, you're mother thinks so.

MATTHEW

My mother is wrong. I am just fine. I don't need a shrink.

KENNETH

Would you like to talk about what happened two weeks ago?

MATTHEW

What happened?

KENNETH

Are you ashamed of what the two of you were doing?

MATTHEW

No.

KENNETH

Then why not talk about it?

MATTHEW

Because it's private.

KENNETH

Do you think you're old enough to make those decisions?

MATTHEW

*(Slight pause)*. Yeah. Maybe. I don't know. *(Shrugs)*. I don't know.

KENNETH

Do you think you should be married before you have intercourse with someone?

MATTHEW

My mother thinks so. I don't know what I think.

Was he your first partner?

KENNETH

*(Slight pause)*. What do you mean, first?

MATTHEW

So, he wasn't your first?

KENNETH

*(Slight pause)*. By choice, yes.

MATTHEW

What do you mean by that?

KENNETH

*(Looks him in the eye)*. You know exactly what I mean.

MATTHEW

You should never assume people know what you are talking about. You should be clear and precise. Tell me what you mean.

KENNETH

*(Slight pause)*. So my mom told you about me and Brian, but she didn't mention Father Mark Andrews?

MATTHEW

Who is that?

KENNETH

*(Slight pause)*. He's the priest at St. Helen Catholic Church.

MATTHEW

What about him.

KENNETH

*(Slight pause)*. Come on, man. You know what I'm saying.

MATTHEW

Is that how you learned what you did with Brian?

KENNETH

Yeah.

MATTHEW

KENNETH  
What did he teach you?

MATTHEW  
I'm not going to tell you that.

KENNETH  
Why not.

MATTHEW  
*(Disgusted)*. Because it's sick.

KENNETH  
Then why did you do it with Brian?

MATTHEW  
*(Slight pause)*. That's different. Brian is only a year younger than me. The priest...well, he's supposed to be a priest. A man of God. Not a demon.

KENNETH  
So, you feel what you did was okay just as long as you did it with Brian and not the priest.

MATTHEW  
*(Slight pause)*. I don't want to talk anymore.

KENNETH  
Not talking about it is not going solve the problem.

MATTHEW  
What problem? There is no problem.

KENNETH  
Can you control your urges?

MATTHEW  
*(Pauses)*. I said I don't want to talk anymore.

KENNETH  
Well, I am not going to force you to talk. We'll just sit here...quietly.

MATTHEW  
Thank you. *(They sit for a bit quietly. Black out)*.

ACT ONE SCENE FIVE

HEATHER  
How did your session go?

MATTHEW  
It went well.

HEATHER  
Is that it?

MATTHEW  
Yeah, it went well.

HEATHER  
You know you can talk to me if you want?

MATTHEW  
No mother, I am fine.

HEATHER  
Are you sure? Whatever you want to say, just say it.

MATTHEW  
Whatever I want to say; just say it?

HEATHER  
Yes, Matthew. I'm all ears.

MATTHEW  
I don't want to go to counseling. I don't need it. I'm not crazy enough to see a shrink.

HEATHER  
You were having sex with a boy. You must see that as wrong.

MATTHEW  
We were just pleasuring each other. There is nothing wrong with that.

HEATHER  
There is everything wrong with it.

MATTHEW  
It was okay when Father Mark-

HEATHER  
Matthew, don't start those lies again.

MATTHEW

Why don't you believe me mother? I wouldn't lie about something like that.

HEATHER

Father Mark Andrews is a holy man. He can never do any wrong.

MATTHEW

You are blind mom. Maybe if you didn't worship the guy you could see past his façade.

HEATHER

I don't worship him. How dare you say that?

MATTHEW

Then why can't you believe me? I am telling you the truth, mom.

HEATHER

Stop it. Stop this talk right now. I don't want to hear another word of it. Now go to your room.

MATTHEW

Why don't you love me?

HEATHER

How could you ask me such a question? Of course I love you.

MATTHEW

Then why won't you believe me? Or is it just easier to pretend? *(No response. Matthew exits.)*

GREGORY

*(Enters as Matthew exits)* What's wrong with him?

HEATHER

Greg, you have to talk to him. He needs a man to talk some sense into him.

GREGORY

What's wrong with him?

HEATHER

I think he thinks he's in love with Brian. And that just can't happen. It's a sin and you know it.

GREGORY

I'm pretty sure the both of them know it's not love.

HEATHER

That's not the point. What if they keep doing it? You know that can't happen under the circumstances.

GREGORY

It might be easier if we just tell them-

HEATHER

*(Stern)* No. It's not the time. Talk to Matthew, please. *(Exits.)*

GREGORY

*(Doorbell rings, he answers it)*. Hey, is everything okay?

DELILAH

Yeah. Is Mary, mother of Jesus here?

GREGORY

She went upstairs.

DELILAH

Oh good. I'm not in the mood for her today. May I come in?

GREGORY

Sure. What's up?

DELILAH

You gotta talk to Brian. He's not listening to me. I feel bad though; I kinda raised him wrong. You know? I need you to make him understand the importance of abstaining. He's not listening to me. He just keeps throwing in my face how I live. I need you to talk to him. He listens to you.

GREGORY

No problem. Have him come over.

DELILAH

Is now okay?

GREGORY

*(He looks around)*. Yeah, sure.

DELILAH

Thank you, Greg.

ACT ONE SCENE SIX

*Gregory is pacing while Matthew and Brian is sitting watching him.*

MATTHEW

Are you okay, dad?

GREGORY

Yeah, I'm fine. I just need to talk to you, but don't know what to tell you.

BRIAN

What is it, Mr. Conway?

GREGORY

You guys know what you were doing was wrong, right? *(They nod yes)*. Good. And you know that you shouldn't do it again, right? *(They nod yes)*. And you agree never to do it again, right? *(They nod yes)*. Good. Well, that wasn't so difficult.

MATTHEW

That's all?

GREGORY

Well. What do you want to do?

MATTHEW

What do you mean, dad?

GREGORY

What do you want to do with your life? How do you plan on living after you move out?

MATTHEW

I don't know. I thought about becoming a graphic designer. I even thought about having my own business.

GREGORY

Seriously? Well, that's good. I'm proud to hear that. What about you, Brian?

BRIAN

Well, I always thought about becoming a filmmaker. It seems far fetch, but it's the only thing I could think of doing.

GREGORY

No, nothing is ever far fetch. All things are possible. You just have to believe God can help you. This is really good. So, do you know what college you ant to go to?

MATTHEW

I was thinking the Art Institute in Pennsylvania.

GREGORY

That sounds great. What about you Brian?

BRIAN

I was thinking about the New York Film Academy. I always wanted to go to New York.

GREGORY

This is all good. So, as you continue with high school stay focused on your college career and your main careers and if you stay focus on your future aspirations then it will be easier to abstain. It really is important to abstain. You know that, right?

MATTHEW

Yeah.

BRIAN

Yes, Mr. Conway.

GREGORY

Good. Then always remember that. Don't forget it. Just stay focus on your visions. You think the two of you could do that?

MATTHEW

Yeah, sure.

BRIAN

Yes, Mr. Conway.

GREGORY

Good. You guys wanna go bowling?

MATTHEW

Sure.

BRIAN

I have to ask my mom.

GREGORY

Sure thing.

ACT ONE SCENE SEVEN

HEATHER

Why did you take them bowling? You don't reward them after they have sinned.

GREGORY

I wasn't rewarding them. I just thought I'd take them out. I haven't done so in such a long time.

HEATHER

Well, I don't want Brian around my son anymore.

GREGORY

Hun, I was with them the whole time, nothing happened.

HEATHER

Did they happen to take a bathroom break?

GREGORY

Heather, you're over reacting. Everything was fine. I talked to them just like you asked.

HEATHER

I never said talk to Brian.

GREGORY

Delilah did. I thought it'd be easier to talk to the both of them.

HEATHER

Brian is not your responsibility. You didn't have to talk to him.

GREGORY

Heather, they're both just misguided. I talked to the both of them and everything is okay now. Brian is a good boy. He just made this mistake. Along with Matthew.

HEATHER

Matthew was molested by Brian. He made no mistake.

GREGORY

We don't know if anyone of them was forced.

HEATHER

My son, my holy son would never disrespect Mary the mother of Jesus in this holy house.

GREGORY

Heather. Listen. They were both to blame. They both knew what they were doing was wrong and after our talk I believe they both will make sure it does not happen again. Let's just leave the past in the past and move forward.

HEATHER

I just want to make sure that heathen's seed does not step foot in this house again.

GREGORY

You know for a Christian, you're acting pretty evil. *(She tries to respond, but can't find the words. She storms off).*

ACT ONE SCENE EIGHT

MATTHEW

I don't feel like talking today.

KENNETH

You never feel like talking. Tell me, do you feel better after you kept everything to yourself? Is that something you can honestly say is working?

MATTHEW

What's the point? WHAT IS THE POINT? I talked to my mother and she didn't believe me.

KENNETH

Did you ever talk to your dad?

MATTHEW

No.

KENNETH

Why not?

MATTHEW

I was too ashamed.

KENNETH

Why?

MATTHEW

I thought he'd be too hurt to hear that from me. I don't know I just felt safer telling my mom.

KENNETH

Do you think you should tell your father?

MATTHEW

I don't want him to see me like that.

KENNETH

Like what?

MATTHEW

Molested.

KENNETH

Do you think he will dislike you or not love you anymore?

MATTHEW

I don't know. I just can't seem to tell him.

KENNETH

Do you want Father Mark Andrews in jail?

MATTHEW

Yes. That's where he belongs with the other criminals.

KENNETH

So, then why not go to the police?

MATTHEW

Because...because.

KENNETH

Because what?

MATTHEW

Because...

KENNETH

Are you afraid?

MATTHEW

No.

KENNETH

Then what is it?

MATTHEW

I'm starting to think he didn't do it. I mean I remember him doing it for the longest time, but I feel like maybe my mom is right. Maybe I just dreamed it all.

KENNETH

Is that your full belief?

MATTHEW

I don't think so.

KENNETH

Maybe you are pretending your mother is right so you don't feel the pain of your mother not believing you. *(Pause. Matthew breaks the silence by sobbing).*

ACT ONE SCENE NINE

GREGORY

*(Enters to answer the door).* Hey.

DELILAH

Hello, Greg. May I enter?

GREGORY

Sure.

DELILAH

Is the Mrs. here?

GREGORY

No. She's at church.

DELILAH

Of course she is. That woman spends more time in church than a mouse.

GREGORY

There's nothing wrong with spending time with God.

DELILAH

Oh please, she's not spending time with God she's spending time with the priest. There's a difference.

GREGORY

Well, is everything okay?

DELILAH

Oh yeah. I just came to thank you for talking to my son. And then taking them bowling afterwards was just great. I really think you got to him. You know, I truly thank you for treating him so well. If it weren't for you and your son I don't think Brian would have turned out as well as he has. He probably would have ended up like the rest of those rednecks causing hell to society for no reason. I just came to say thank you.

GREGORY

You're welcome. You know it's not a problem.

DELILAH

One other thing. My sink is all clogged up. I was wondering if you could come over and—

GREGORY

You know I can't do that anymore.

DELILAH

No, not that. I was wondering if you could come over and teach Brian how to fix it. I figure he's growing up now; it's time he starts to learn how to be a good handy man. And I figure what better man to do it than you.

GREGORY

That actually seems like a great idea. I'll come over Saturday. And I'll bring Matthew too. I'll teach them both.

DELILAH

That's good. I'll tell him to be ready. Should he wear anything special to be prepared?

GREGORY

Just tell him to be ready to get dirty.

DELILAH

*(Laughs)*. Of course. I am sure he will enjoy the time with you and Matthew. Thank you once again. You've been really great to him. I know he appreciates. I know I do.

GREGORY

My pleasure.

DELILAH

I'll see you Saturday.

GREGORY

Bye.

ACT ONE SCENE TEN

*A loud knock is heard at the door.*

GREGORY

*(Opens it)* Is everything okay?

OFFICER KNIGHT (OFF-STAGE)

May we enter?

GREGORY

Sure.

HEATHER

*(Officer Knight and Officer Morning enter).* Oh my Mary; what's going on?

OFFICER MORNING

We don't mean to startle you. I'm Officer Morning and this is Officer Knight. We just came to speak to Matthew Conway.

HEATHER

What, why? Is he in trouble?

OFFICER KNIGHT

No, we just need to talk to him about an issue.

GREGORY

I'll go get him. *(Exits).*

HEATHER

You do know he's a minor? Which means you cannot talk to him alone.

GREGORY

*(Reenters).* Matthew, these officers want to talk to you.

MATTHEW

I didn't do anything wrong.

OFFICER KNIGHT

No, actually would you mind if he came down to the precinct with us?

HEATHER

I just told you he's a minor.

OFFICER MORNING

You're more than welcomed to come with him.

Can my dad go with me?

MATTHEW

That's fine.

OFFICER KNIGHT

I want dad to go with me.

MATTHEW

Why?

HEATHER

Mom, please.

MATTHEW

ACT ONE SCENE ELEVEN

GREGORY

Is everything alright, Officers?

OFFICER KNIGHT

Yes. We just have some questions. Matthew, we received an anonymous tip about you. We wanted to make sure it was true before we proceeded with our investigation.

MATTHEW

What are you talking about?

OFFICER MORNING

We were told that you were dealt with inappropriately as a child. Is that true?

GREGORY

By whom?

MATTHEW

Who told you this?

OFFICER KNIGHT

We're not sure; it was an anonymous tip.

MATTHEW

What did they say?

OFFICER MORNING

They mentioned that you were molested by a clergyman.

GREGORY

WHAT? Is this a joke!

OFFICER KNIGHT

Mr. Conway, calm down.

MATTHEW

I know who told you.

OFFICER MORNING

So, is this true?

MATTHEW

Yes.

GREGORY

What? Matthew, why didn't you tell me?

MATTHEW

I'm telling you now.

OFFICER MORNING

We're going to need a statement from you. Are you up to it?

MATTHEW

Yes.

GREGORY

Is that why you stop going to church?

MATTHEW

Yes.

GREGORY

You didn't trust me? Was that it? You didn't trust me enough to tell me?

MATTHEW

I was afraid you wouldn't want to look at me again if you knew what was happening to me.

GREGORY

How could you think that?

MATTHEW

I don't know.

GREGORY

*(He grabs him and embraces him).* I love you. Don't you ever forget it. I'm sorry. I am so sorry this happened to you.

ACT ONE SCENE TWELVE

*While the lights are out the following is heard*

REPORTER

Just one week ago a young man who shall remain nameless came forth and confessed he was molested by Father Mark Andrews of Saint Helen Catholic Church. A week later including today a total of twelve boys have come forth between the ages of nine and twenty-two claiming that they were all molested by Father Mark Andrews. Father Andrews has been suspended from all duties and now the question is will he be tried in court. From XYZ7 I'm Yolanda Beatrice. Back to you in the studios.

KENNETH

*(Lights up. Dr Kenneth is in his office arranging some things. Matthew enters.)* Hey, Matthew. I'll be with you in a moment. *(Matthew walks towards him and pushes him).* Goodness, what's wrong with you?

MATTHEW

Why did you tell?

KENNETH

Tell what?

MATTHEW

You went to the police? How could you?

KENNETH

How do you know I went to the police?

MATTHEW

Because you and mom are the only ones who know and I know my mother wouldn't have went to the police. How could you do this? Could you have at least asked me?

KENNETH

As a professional, and adult, and an American citizen it was my duty to report it. Any time a child is endangered it is an adult's job to report it. I am sorry, but it was my duty.

MATTHEW

My mother hates me.

KENNETH

Why would she hate you?

MATTHEW

She thinks I made this all up. She thinks I'm lying.

KENNETH

But twelve more boys have come forth. Isn't that enough proof for her?

MATTHEW

She thinks I hired them to come forth.

KENNETH

Wow, maybe I should be seeing your mother and not you.

MATTHEW

Are you trying to say my mother is crazy?

KENNETH

Well-

MATTHEW

How dare you? *(Pushes him)*.

KENNETH

Look. I know you're angry, but think of it this way; now Father Mark cannot hurt another boy. Who's to say he was not molesting a boy the day you were in here telling me about him. Now that he has been caught he cannot hurt another boy.

MATTHEW

You should have at least asked me.

KENNETH

Legally, I didn't have to. My job was to make sure you were safe.

MATTHEW

It's too late for that. He already fucked me. *(Sobs. Kenneth walks towards him and hugs him)*.

SCENE THIRTEEN

*Black out. While lights are out the following is heard.*

REPORTER

It has been two long years and the jury has found Father Mark Andrews the priest of St Helen Catholic Church guilty on fifteen counts of endangering a child. The judge has sentenced him to five to ten years for each count and he will not be eligible for parole until he has successfully served at least eight of the fifteen counts. The parishioners are grieving for the priest and the parish for they have to find another priest, but at least there is justice for the twelve young men. This Freddie Love for Wolf5 news.

MATTHEW

*(Is dancing to music. Lisa enters while his back is to her. She creeps up to him and pokes him. He jumps). Oh, Brian you scared me. (As he turns and looks his eyes explode). Oh my gosh! What are you doing here?*

LISA

And hello to you too.

MATTHEW

Hello. *(They hug)*. I thought you'd never come home. What are you doing here?

LISA

I came home to visit. Its spring break so I thought I'd come by.

MATTHEW

This is your fourth year in college and you never came home. Why all of the sudden the change?

LISA

I came to see you. I should have been here for you.

MATTHEW

No, you were in college.

LISA

No excuse. I just didn't know what to say to you. That's why I hid. But I told myself I have to come see you to make sure you're okay. How are you doing?

MATTHEW

I'm doing well.

LISA

I'm a horrible sister.

MATTHEW

No you're not.

LISA

I am too. I should have done more than just send a card.

MATTHEW

You sent me flowers; don't forget the flowers.

LISA

I should have noticed something was wrong when you stopped going to church. I was just so excited to hop on that plan and go to college that I didn't even care to check and see what was wrong. Do you forgive me?

MATTHEW

Of course. It's not your fault.

LISA

Someone needs to take the blame. We dropped the ball. I should have been your keeper.

MATTHEW

It's not your job to be my keeper.

LISA

I am my brother's keeper and I did a horrible job.

MATTHEW

Lisa, it's really okay.

LISA

My gosh. Mom must have really been upset. As much as she used to worship that man, she must have been devastated to know he did that to you.

MATTHEW

She didn't believe me when I told her.

LISA

What do you mean?

MATTHEW

I was twelve when it started I told her about a year later and she said I was lying. She wouldn't believe me. I stopped going to church because I didn't want to be molested anymore.

LISA

Well, how the hell did you convince her to go to the police?

MATTHEW  
I didn't. My doctor went to the police.

LISA  
Dr. Smith?

MATTHEW  
No. Dr. Allen.

LISA  
Who is Dr. Allen?

MATTHEW  
He was my psychologist.

LISA  
What? You had a psychologist?

MATTHEW  
Yeah.

LISA  
For what?

MATTHEW  
Mom thought I needed one after she caught me and Brian.

LISA  
Caught you and Brian doing what?

MATTHEW  
You know.

LISA  
What?

MATTHEW  
You know. The nasty.

LISA  
WHAT? What were doing that for? Don't you know that's a sin?

MATTHEW  
Since when did you become mother?

LISA

No, its not that, I just---what I mean is. Never mind. My gosh she walked in on the two of you?

MATTHEW

Yeah.

LISA

That must have been a real eye opener for her. She must have really been sorry that she kept—I just can't believe this. What did dad say?

MATTHEW

Dad just told us to stop and to focus on our future.

LISA

Yes that is completely correct. Just completely stop. Don't ever do that again....I mean you really don't understand what you're doing when you—this is just...I should have been here for you.

MATTHEW

It's really okay.

LISA

It's not okay. Have you guys been abstinent since the day mom caught you?

MATTHEW

Yes. At least I have. I don't know if he...you know.

LISA

Well, that's fine; just as long the two of—you know. It's just not--- you know, you gotta save yourself for you spouse because that's what the bible says. Don't ever get with him again. Okay? (*No response*). OKAY.

MATTHEW

Yeah. Calm down.

LISA

Good.

MATTHEW

Enough about me. How's Los Angeles?

LISA

Oh my gosh; Becky. It is amazing. It is so much better than here. I mean they have everything over there. I have never learned so much in my life in such a short amount of

time. You gotta get out of here when you go to college. Don't let mom convince you to stay. No offense, but this town is too small. And too white.

MATTHEW

What do you mean?

LISA

You will not believe all you miss staying in a prominently white town. I mean the culture is amazing in LA. I mean it is so colorful over there. They have white people, black people, Asian, and Hispanics. I mean it's like a beautiful rainbow. And not all the Muslims have bombs.

MATTHEW

Really?

LISA

Yeah, some of them are really nice. And not all of them are Muslims.

MATTHEW

How is that possible?

LISA

It's confusing. They explained it to me, but I barely understood it. They said that they are from the mid-east, but not Muslim. They said something like Muslim is a religion, but not a culture. They have some Muslims who are Christians.

MATTHEW

Really?

LISA

Yes, it's amazing. And I could never understand why anyone would be so mean to the blacks. They are so much fun.

MATTHEW

Really?

LISA

Some of the nicest people I met over there were black. Well, they're still black. I sure hope Satan has a special place in hell for all those people who were mean to the blacks.

MATTHEW

Didn't any of them try to rob you?

LISA

No. In fact the first guy who tried to snatch my purse was a white man.

MATTHEW

Seriously.

LISA

Yeah.

MATTHEW

That's crazy.

LISA

And oh my gosh they have these new type of peoples over there that I have never heard of. They call themselves Vegans.

MATTHEW

What's a Vegan?

LISA

They're people who don't eat meat. And they don't eat dairy or eggs.

MATTHEW

No dairy? How do they eat cereal?

LISA

They have this thing called soy milk.

MATTHEW

What's that?

LISA

It's a milk substitute made with soy beans.

MATTHEW

What's soy beans?

LISA

It's like a lima bean, but it's a soy bean. And it's white.

MATTHEW

Wow, that's amazing. Did you see any celebrities?

LISA

Oh, like all the time. You see them like everyday just walking down the street.

MATTHEW

Did you run up to them?

LISA

Yeah, at first, but soon you get over it. Soon you realize they are regular people just like you and me.

MATTHEW

So, how's school going?

LISA

It's going great. I made the dean's list like a bunch of times. I'm really glad to be finishing though. It's been rough, but all in all it's been a great experience.

MATTHEW

Well, that's good. I'm happy for you.

LISA

And how is everything going with you?

MATTHEW

Okay.

LISA

I am so sorry, Matthew. You did not deserve that. No one deserves that. I am really sorry you had to go through that. I wish there was something I could have done.

MATTHEW

Its okay, but thank you for apologizing. I love you.

LISA

I love you more.

HEATHER

*(Enters with grocery bags. Notices Lisa. She screams).* My baby came home. Matthew, come take these bags. *(Matthew takes the bags).* Come and give me a hug. Oh my goodness. I don't believe my eyes. What are you doing here?

LISA

I came to visit.

HEATHER

After four years. I thought you forgot about us.

LISA

I wanted to see my brother. See how he was doing?

HEATHER

He's doing just fine. Right, Matthew? I am so proud to see you. So when are you graduating?

LISA

This May.

HEATHER

*(Screams)*. Congratulations, baby. Oh my baby is a college graduate.

LISA

Not yet. I have about two more months to go.

HEATHER

Oh, as smart as you are; I know it's in the bag. Your father is going to be so proud. Ooh, maybe you could hide when he comes home and we can surprise him.

LISA

Mother, this isn't A Christmas Carol.

HEATHER

I'm so proud of you. So you have to tell me everything. How have the Los Angeles people been treating you? I heard it's very unholy there.

LISA

Mother, it's unholy everywhere except Heaven.

HEATHER

Oh no, my house is very holy and so is St Helen Church.

LISA

Can we change the subject?

HEATHER

So how have your grades been keeping up?

LISA

Great. Knowing that if I didn't do well I would lose my scholarship encouraged me to keep my grades at A's and B's.

HEATHER

That's wonderful. I sure can't wait until your daddy sees you. Now wait a minute. Did you change your hair?

LISA

Yeah. I dyed it. You like it?

HEATHER

What was wrong with the hair I gave you?

LISA

Mother, I was trying something new.

MATTHEW

Wow, I just noticed it. I like it. It's different.

LISA

See mother, there's nothing wrong with dying your hair.

HEATHER

Seems like to me you should be happy with the hair color the good Lord gave you.

LISA

Mother, please get over it.

HEATHER

I'm just saying.

LISA

I think Matthew should dye his hair.

HEATHER

Oh no he shouldn't.

MATTHEW

Isn't dying hair for girls?

LISA

Not in LA. Guys dye their hair all the time.

HEATHER

I knew going over there to that heathen's corner would be a problem. They defiled your thinking.

LISA

Oh, mother, lighten up, please.

HEATHER

Did you at least go to mass while you were over there?

LISA

At first I did.

Then what?

HEATHER

I...I changed. I changed my faith.

LISA

What do you mean?

HEATHER

I was enlightened. I just realized that the Catholic faith was a bit off.

LISA

What do you mean by that?

HEATHER

Well, I went around trying new things and I found this church that seemed to be just what I needed. The truth.

LISA

What kind of church is it...Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran?

HEATHER

None of those. It's non-denominational.

LISA

What does that mean?

HEATHER

In the bible in Genesis it says that we are to multiply; not divide. So when you create a denomination you are dividing and everyone knows divided we fall. Besides we're supposed to be the body of Christ. What good is body if it's divided? It's a non-denominational church which means they only teach the bible; not the crap man created.

LISA

I don't know if I like the sound of that.

HEATHER

You should research the Catholic faith. Most of the stuff that is done is not in the bible.

LISA

You're starting to sound like Delilah.

HEATHER

Speaking of which, I think I'm going to make a visit.

LISA

HEATHER

Please don't go over to her house. You might pick up some of her bad traits.

LISA

Mother, she's not all that bad. She's a good person.

MATTHEW

I think I'll come with you.

LISA and HEATHER

No.

LISA

I mean...I won't be long, I'm just going to...you know...just pop my head in and out. You stay here and help mom put the groceries away. I'll be back. Oh mom, there's a bag in my bag. It's my laundry. When you get a chance can you please—

HEATHER

Please what? You spent four years away from home. Who did your laundry in LA?

LISA

I did.

HEATHER

Well, why can't you do it now?

LISA

Because I'm home now; you might as well do it. See you later. (*Exits*).

HEATHER

I can't believe she finally came home to visit. Your dad is going to be so happy.

MATTHEW

I can't wait to go to her graduation. She said they have Vegans in LA. I want to meet them.

HEATHER

What the heck is a Vegan?

MATTHEW

They're people who don't eat meat or dairy or eggs.

HEATHER

Why not?

MATTHEW

I don't know.

HEATHER

I wonder if they have restaurants just for Vegans.

MATTHEW

I don't think so. Wouldn't that be segregation?

SCENE FOURTEEN

*Lisa enters*

LISA

Okay, Delilah. See ya, tomorrow. *(She laughs. She starts singing and dancing).*

MATTHEW

*(Enters).* What's going on?

LISA

Hey, my brother. How ya doing? *(She laughs).*

MATTHEW

Did you just get in?

LISA

Yeah. Delilah took me to this happening bar. And we wuz jamming *(Laughs)*

MATTHEW

Are you drunk?

LISA

Of course not...just a little buzzed. *(Laughs).*

MATTHEW

You better be glad moms not here. She would kill you.

LISA

So where is St. Mary?

MATTHEW

Her and dad went to a charity dinner.

LISA

They were forever going to those charity dinners when I was living here. I guess not much has changed.

MATTHEW

Is this your first time drinking?

LISA

No. Of course not.

MATTHEW

When was your first time?

LISA

At one of those frat parties on campus. Ooooh-wee; did we have fun.

MATTHEW

I thought drinking on campus was illegal.

LISA

It is *(She laughs)*. That's why the name of the game is; don't get caught. *(Laughs)*.

MATTHEW

Are you okay?

LISA

Girl, I'm fine.

MATTHEW

Do you mind if I talk to you?

LISA

Go ahead and talk.

MATTHEW

Are you sober enough?

LISA

Yeah, man. Go ahead and talk.

MATTHEW

I need advice.

LISA

Talk.

MATTHEW

I'm having problems-

LISA

*(Singing)* Talk...talk, talk, talk.

MATTHEW

I'm having problems—

LISA

*(Singing)* Having problems, talk... talk, talk, talk. *(Laughing)*

MATTHEW

Maybe I should wait until you're sober.

LISA

Girl, I'm fine. I told you I'm not drunk. Just buzzed. *(Laughs)*. Go ahead, talk.

MATTHEW

I'm having problems controlling my urges.

LISA

What urges?

MATTHEW

You know. Abstaining.

LISA

Oh. Poor baby. It's a shame what that priest has done to you. Well, when you get the urge...pray. Or play some gospel music. I'm sure no one wants to have sex while gospel music is playing. You know what I mean? *(Laughs)*. Well, maybe mother. *(Laughs)*. Then again knowing mother she's probably a virgin. *(Laughs)*.

MATTHEW

How's that possible?

LISA

She probably had us inseminated. *(Laughs)*. She probably had dad pleasure himself and then had a turkey baster do the rest. *(Laughs)*. Hey, I should be a comedian.

MATTHEW

Are you sure you're not drunk?

LISA

Damn it, Matthew, stop asking me that. I'm fine. I'm sorry I think I'm being ensympa...imsythapa...emsypatatic...unsymphony... damn it you know what I'm trying to say.

MATTHEW

I really need to talk. Brian and haven't done since, but we've been talking and I'm not sure if I can resist him.

LISA

Maybe you should cut your dick off. *(Laughs)*. No, I'm just kidding.

MATTHEW

How do you abstain?

LISA

It's easier for me; I've never experience it. Someone once told me having sex before marriage is like having drugs. Once you start it's difficult to stop. Just think of something that will make you turned off?

MATTHEW

Like what?

LISA

I don't know; think of football or baseball or maybe a woman (*she laughs*). Or maybe if you think of the fact that he's your brother that'll keep you celibate.

MATTHEW

WHAT?

LISA

What?

MATTHEW

What did you say?

LISA

(*She thinks*) Gee, I don't know what I just said. (*She laughs*). Lisa. Yes Lisa. Do you know what you just said? No, girl, sorry I don't know. (*She laughs*).

MATTHEW

How the hell is Brian my brother?

LISA

Why are you asking me that?

MATTHEW

You just said Brian is my brother.

LISA

I said that?

MATTHEW

Yes.

LISA

Shit. Oops, please excuse my Italian, I mean my German, I mean my French. (*She laughs*).

MATTHEW

Lisa! How is this so?

LISA

She begins to snap out of it. *(Thinking)* Oh, my gosh. Matthew, what have I done? Let me explain. *(Feels sick)* Whoa.

MATTHEW

Are you okay?

LISA

Yes, I'm fine. I just need to. Whoa.

MATTHEW

Is everything okay? Do I need to call a doctor?

LISA

No, I'm fine. I just need to. Whoa. *(She gets up and runs. She exits. We hear her vomiting off stage.)* Shit, I'm drunk. *(She laughs. Black Out. As the lights return it is clear that it is the next morning. Lisa is sleeping on the couch with an icepack on her head. Matthew is sitting nearby awaiting for her to wake. Soon she wakes up moaning.)* Oh, goodness. Why is there an icepack on my head? And why is my head pounding?

MATTHEW

You really don't remember?

LISA

I don't think so. What happened?

MATTHEW

You came home drunk last night.

LISA

Oh shoot. Did I do anything stupid? When I was at the frat parties my friends would tell me I either did something or said something stupid. Did I do anything I might regret?

MATTHEW

No, but you did say something?

LISA

Oh, shoot. Did I curse? I have a problem with my mouth when I'm drunk. Did I use profanity?

MATTHEW

Yes. Are you an alcoholic?

LISA

No. Not even close. It's just every now and then, that's all. Nothing major.

MATTHEW

Well, being that you cannot control yourself maybe you should stop.

LISA

It's not that bad. I don't say anything greatly offensive. Trust me if I had a problem I would know it.

MATTHEW

Do you remember what you said last night?

LISA

No. I hope nothing crazy. You know I once told a college boy I would hump him dry on a wet day. I have no clue where the hell that came from. I think alcohol is like a demon. It can make you say things you would never say.

MATTHEW

That's why they call them spirits. You know wines and *spirits*. It's also why they call it under the influence.

LISA

Yeah, I know. Well, just make sure you don't tell mother. I don't want her splashing me with holy water. Hell, I don't need some priest doing an exorcism on me. And hell, you don't need a priest over here either. (*Catches herself*). Damn, I'm sorry. That was rude. And excuse me for saying damn.

MATTHEW

You are not yourself when you drink.

LISA

I know. I have to stop. Well, I had, but Delilah took me to this club out of town, and I just...the memories returned and I guess I lost it for a moment. But that's it; no more drinking for me.

MATTHEW

Well, that's good. (*Pause*). But you still don't remember what you said?

LISA

(*Thinks*). I seriously cannot remember. I am so sorry. Was it offensive? Please forgive me if it was.

MATTHEW

It wasn't.

LISA

Oh thank God.

MATTHEW

You said something I don't think you meant to say.

LISA

Well, what the hell did I say?

MATTHEW

It was my fault. I knew you were a bit drunk. I should have never asked you for help.

LISA

What happened?

MATTHEW

I asked you for advice. I wanted to know what I could do to fight my urges to have sex with Brian.

LISA

*(Some things are starting to make sense)* What did I say?

MATTHEW

You said if I thought of the fact that he was my brother then that would keep me celibate. *(Pause)*. Is that true or was that the liquor talking?

LISA

*(Slight pause)* All of thee above.

MATTHEW

*(Pauses)*. How long have you known?

LISA

I am so sorry. It wasn't supposed to come out that way. And technically I could be wrong. It could just be a coincidence.

MATTHEW

What?

LISA

No one ever told me Brian was our brother I just guessed. As I grew older I began to put two and two together and I knew it had to be between everything being a coincidence or Brian being our brother. I just chose to believe he is our brother.

MATTHEW

What coincidences?

LISA

Well, it all started when I was about six years old. Mom and dad started arguing a lot about Delilah. I was too young to understand any of it, but as I got older I began to fit the pieces together. *(Beat)* Delilah moved in the neighborhood when I was around five or six. Everyone in the neighborhood hated her because of her name and the fact that she looked like a home wrecker. However, dad was really nice to her. And after some time he started going over to her house just about every day.

MATTHEW

Why?

LISA

Her dryer broke then the washer, then the sink, the toilet, the refrigerator, the oven, the stove, the microwave, the blender, etc, etc, etc. When dad would come home mom would just argue saying he was spending too much time over there. When I was seven you were born and things got a little better; dad began to spend less time at Delilah's house. Then her heater broke and before you know everything in her house began to break again. When I was eight she was pregnant. Not only did mom begin to suspect dad, but the neighbors were talking. And no matter where I went with mother there was someone whispering. But they purposely whispered loudly so mother could hear. I think the problem with adults is they really don't know how much children hear them. I mean I heard everything that was said. I didn't quite understand, but I heard it. As I grew older I began to put what I heard together and as I went into sex education it was clear to me then what everyone was saying, but I couldn't believe that dad would do that. However, as Brian grew up I noticed some small similarities between him and dad and I couldn't help but wonder if it was all true.

MATTHEW

What similarities?

LISA

Well, it's nothing major. They're both lefties; Brian walks exactly like dad; and they're both allergic to shellfish. That's why I wasn't completely sure because it's all speculation, but I just...there was always an inner voice telling me he indeed is our brother.

MATTHEW

Mom always says our inner voice is God speaking to us.

LISA

Well, if that's true, being that God can't lie, that would make him our brother. I'm sorry you had to find out this way.

MATTHEW

I wish I would have known before I had sex with him.

LISA

Shit, that's right. Damn, excuse my mouth.

MATTHEW

Since when did you start cursing?

LISA

If you haven't learned to be a leader you automatically become a follower. While I was in college I was nothing, but a follower. I was around the wrong crowd and did everything they did. *(Beat)* When you go to college make sure you establish yourself as a leader.

MATTHEW

*(Pause)*. Does anyone know you know?

LISA

No. I figured if they don't tell me there's no use in me telling them. Knowing mother she'll never tell. She prefers to pretend to have a perfect family rather than do the work it takes to have a perfect family.

MATTHEW

Well, I need to know for sure.

LISA

Then ask them. I'm not asking. I'm pretty sure I am not even supposed to know.

MATTHEW

*(Pause)*. Can you do me a favor?

LISA

Yeah. What is it?

MATTHEW

Never drink again. I didn't like that person I met last night.

LISA

I'm sorry. I will do my best to never drink again.

SCENE SIXTEEN

*Brian and Matthew are sitting on a couch. With their heads down (ashamed) Brian slightly moves away from Matthew.*

BRIAN

Do you think it's true? I mean you said she was drunk.

MATTHEW

I know, but she had enough evidence to prove it.

BRIAN

Why are you telling me this?

MATTHEW

Because you have the right to know.

BRIAN

I don't know that I want to know.

MATTHEW

Why not?

BRIAN

We had sex together. Many times for years. You don't know how disgusted I am.

MATTHEW

You don't think I am?

BRIAN

You don't seem to be.

MATTHEW

I hate the fact that they kept this from us. That's why I'm telling you. I don't want to do the very thing I hate them doing.

BRIAN

Well, maybe it's just all coincidences.

MATTHEW

Think about it. You told me that every time you asked your mother who your father is she told you she couldn't tell you yet. Why was she waiting? Maybe this is why.

BRIAN

She said I wasn't old enough to understand the circumstances.

MATTHEW

These seem like circumstances you can't tell your child. Your father is a married man; who lives across the street who happens to be the father of your best friend; who happens to treat you like you are his son. I mean think of the things he did for you. Like you were his son. There were days that I was jealous of you of how well my father treated you. I don't know about you, but it just all makes sense to me.

BRIAN

I don't need it to make sense. Do you realize what it means?

MATTHEW

I have already cried over the fact that we had sex together, but we didn't know at the time.

BRIAN

I don't know if I could live with this.

MATTHEW

You're really taking this rough.

BRIAN

Why the hell shouldn't I?

MATTHEW

Well, you should, but it's just going to make me asking you to do me a favor difficult.

BRIAN

What favor?

MATTHEW

I can't live the rest of my life knowing this and not knowing for sure. I need you to ask your mother.

BRIAN

What the fuck? Why me?

MATTHEW

Because she's your mother.

BRIAN

Why can't you ask your parents?

MATTHEW

I don't have the courage to ask my dad...our dad. And you know my mother. She's too religious to tell the truth. I need to know. Your mother is truthful. She tells it like it is. I know she wouldn't lie.

BRIAN

I am not asking her. It is out of the fucking question.

MATTHEW

*(Pause)*. Maybe you can ask dad.

BRIAN

Matthew, are you fucking crazy? They don't want us to know; so just leave it alone. I don't want to know that I spent the last three years of my life having sex with my brother. I cannot do that.

MATTHEW

*(Pause)*. I'm sorry I told you. I just thought that you should know. I'm sorry I made you feel dreadful. I didn't realize how angry you would be. I guess I'll just leave it alone.

BRIAN

Please, do that. Just leave it alone.

SCENE SEVENTEEN

*(Doorbell is heard. Delilah answers the door.)*

DELILAH

Hey, Matthew. Is your mother okay with you being here?

MATTHEW

I don't know.

DELILAH

It doesn't matter, Brian's not here.

MATTHEW

I know. I saw him leave. May I speak with you?

DELILAH

Sure, but you can't stay long. I don't want your mother coming over here yelling at me.

MATTHEW

I just have a question. It's a simple yes or no. Once you answer it I can leave.

DELILAH

Sure. Why are you so serious? Is everything okay?

MATTHEW

Lisa came home drunk about two nights ago. She said she went to a club with you.

DELILAH

Yes, I did not know that girl could drink like that. LA has certainly changed her.

MATTHEW

She said something in her drunkenness. Once she was sober I asked her if she remembered what she said and she told me no. Once I reminded her she was apologetic, but what she mentioned...she said it was true. However, she said she didn't know for sure and so I came here to ask you.

DELILAH

Well, what did she say?

MATTHEW

Is Brian my brother?

DELILAH

Shit. How the hell did she know that?

MATTHEW

So it's true?

DELILAH

Shit. How did she know? Did she tell you how she knew?

MATTHEW

She guessed. Between my parents arguing, the neighbors gossiping, and the fact that my dad and Brian are lefties she just took a guess.

DELILAH

Damn, children really do pay attention, don't they? I had no clue she even had the sense to figure that out?

MATTHEW

I need you to tell me if it's true.

DELILAH

Matthew, sit down. When I first came here the whole town hated me. I had just been in the news. I worked at a strip joint out of town and there was a drug bust. I moved here to get away from it all and the town was not welcoming. Your father was the only one who actually showed me some love. And well, I took advantage of that. We began to talk and one thing led to another and I ended up pregnant. I knew it was your father's because he was the only man I was with, but your mother didn't believe it. I didn't want anything from your father, but I needed at least for him to know he was the only man I was with; so I asked him to take a paternity test. When Brian was a year old they got tested and it was a match. I had every intention on telling Brian, but your mother felt differently. She didn't think it would be wise to tell you until you were both twenty-one years of age. She felt like then you would be old enough to understand the circumstances. So both your father and I agreed with your mother to keep it quiet. I never asked your dad to be in his life, but your father, being the great man he is opted to treat him just as he treated you. That's why your mother and I were very angry when you know...you and Brian...you know. I was angrier at myself because I felt like if I had told him he would have never done it. I'm really sorry for not telling you.

MATTHEW

No, it's not your fault. My parents should have told me.

DELILAH

Did you talk to Brian?

MATTHEW

Yeah, but he didn't want to know so that's why I came to ask you. He doesn't know I'm here so can we keep this between the two of us?

DELILAH

After everything that has happened we really don't need to continue keeping secrets.

MATTHEW

Brian doesn't want to know, and my parent's don't want to tell me. It's not a big deal.

DELILAH

I really don't think so, but if you think its best.

MATTHEW

Please. I don't need my mother grounding me or killing my sister for this.

DELILAH

Well, being that your mother is a bit extreme I guess we could keep this between us.  
(*Door opens*). Hey, Brian.

BRIAN

Hello, mom. (*Beat*). Matthew, what are you doing here?

MATTHEW

(*Stuttering*). Um...I just came to see if you were here.

BRIAN

I thought your mother didn't want you here.

MATTHEW

Yeah, but she doesn't have to know. I just wanted to see if you wanted to hang out.  
That's all.

BRIAN

No. Not today. I don't feel so hot.

MATTHEW

Oh, okay. Well, call me when you're feeling better. Okay?

BRIAN

Ok.

MATTHEW

Bye, Ms. Oakley. (*Exits*)

DELILAH

Bye, Matthew. Aren't you going to say good bye to your friend? (*No response*). What's wrong with you? Are you sick?

BRIAN

How long was he here waiting for me?

DELILAH

Oh, not long. You know maybe a minute or five. *(No response)*. Are you okay?

BRIAN

*(Pause)* Did he ask you?

DELILAH

No. I mean ask me what? What do you mean did he ask me? I don't know what you mean.

BRIAN

I grew up with Matthew and one thing I know about him is he is stubborn. I know once he wants something he goes after it. He came here to ask you, didn't he?

DELILAH

Ask me what? What would he ask me?

BRIAN

Stop it, mom. Just tell me.

DELILAH

Tell you what?

BRIAN

You know exactly what I am talking about.

DELILAH

Okay, when did I become a psychic? *(Pause)* You're going to have to be more specific, son. I don't know what you are talking about.

BRIAN

So, it's true?

DELILAH

What?

BRIAN

You never lied to me. Why are you wasting so much energy avoiding me?

DELILAH

What do you want to know?

BRIAN

Did I really have sex with my brother?

DELILAH

*(Long pause)*. You didn't know he was your brother at the time so don't look at it that way.

BRIAN

I can't tell you yet. When you get older and you can understand the circumstances then I will be able to tell you who your father is. Now I see why you couldn't tell me. Were you ashamed?

DELILAH

No. I wanted to tell you. Heather thought it would be best if we waited until your twenty-first birthday. She said you'd be mature enough to understand. Your father and I agreed.

BRIAN

My father! You mean Mr. Conway. I've been calling my dad Mr. Conway.

DELILAH

*(Pause)*. Son, I'm sorry. I wanted to tell you. Believe me I did. It's just, Heather made a good point. I thought maybe she was right. Not to mention I figured you would just figure it out yourself.

BRIAN

And how would I do that?

DELILAH

Well, you spent so much time with him and Matthew I figured you would begin to see the similarities the three of you have and just realize you were family.

BRIAN

What similarities?

DELILAH

Well, you and Matthew have some similar features in your faces. And Gregory is a leftie like you. You and your dad walk the same and you both are allergic to shellfish. Not to mention you both have dimples.

BRIAN

I don't have dimples.

DELILAH

What happened, they went away?

BRIAN

Mother, I've never had dimples.

DELILAH

When I used to change your diapers you had dimples—never mind. Look, the point is after the meeting I had with Heather I just began to make up excuses as to why I shouldn't tell you. I was really hoping you would figure it out yourself then I wouldn't have to tell you.

BRIAN

I wish you would have told me. I hate what Matthew and I did to each other.

DELILAH

I am really sorry. I convinced myself that what you didn't know wouldn't hurt you. Apparently that turned out to be a lie. I hate secrets. I don't understand why people keep them. They never end up helping anyone. Just hurting everyone. *(Beat)*. You know what for now on I will never lie to you again. I will never keep any secrets from you nor will I withhold information from you.

BRIAN

Well, that's easy to say now that I know your dirtiest secret.

DELILAH

Well, you don't know about me being a stripper.

BRIAN

What?! You're a stripper?

DELILAH

Not anymore. I used to be. But that's my past. But whatever you want to know I will let you know. No more secrets. And with that said I hope you won't hold anything from me.

BRIAN

The only secret I kept from you is what Matthew and I were doing. *(Beat)*. Oh, and I was the one who scratched your car with my bike.

DELILAH

*(Laughs)*. That wasn't a secret. I knew the truth all along.

BRIAN

How did you know?

DELILAH

I'm a mother.

SCENE EIGHTEEN

GREGORY

I am speechless. I'm not exactly sure what to say to you. I'm sorry that I kept this from the both of you. I should have told you. There is no excuse as to why I didn't tell you. I apologize for not being a good example. I not only sinned, but legally I have done some wrong, but that never changed the love I had and have for the both of you. I hate the fact that I didn't tell you sooner. I blame myself because if I did I am pretty sure the two of you would have never...you know. The only thing I can tell you is sorry. I wish I could change my past, but I cannot. The only thing I would have done differently was told you sooner.

MATTHEW

You would have still cheated on mom?

GREGORY

I would never change my past that has to do with getting rid of Brian. Yes, he was brought here the wrong way, but apparently God needed him here for a reason. My love for him will never make me regret that mistake. I just wish I would have allowed him to know who I was earlier. I just want the both of you to know that I have always and will always love you no matter what. There is nothing either one of you could do to chase my love away. *(Starts singing)*. And I will always love you.

MATTHEW and BRIAN

Dad.

MATTHEW

Please stop.

GREGORY

*(They laugh)*. So, Brian, you feel comfortable calling me dad?

BRIAN

I always wanted to. I just didn't think it was proper.

GREGORY

No more Mr. Conway?

BRIAN

I love you, dad.

GREGORY

I love you more-

MATTHEW, BRIAN, and GREGORY

And there is nothing you can do about it. *(They laugh)*.

BRIAN

Matthew, do you mind if I talk with dad alone?

MATTHEW

Of course not. *(Beat)*. Sorry, I went behind your back.

BRIAN

It's okay. We would have found out anyways.

MATTHEW and BRIAN

Twenty-one.

MATTHEW

I'll be in my room *(Exits.)*

GREGORY

So, what's up?

BRIAN

I just wanted to *(smirking)* I feel kind of embarrassed saying this, but I just...my mom says I take after you. She says we both have dimples.

GREGORY

*(Smiles)*. I know. I noticed that the first time I changed your diapers.

BRIAN

What were you doing changing my diapers?

GREGORY

You're my son.

SCENE NINETEEN

HEATHER

So, you know the truth. You know the sins that went on in this house.

MATTHEW

Mother, the more you try to be holy the less you'll be it. Just let go and let God and stop trying to prove to people who you are. Just as long as you know who you are; that's all that matters.

HEATHER

I grew up in the ghetto and I despised it. I saw sin all around me. My family was everything except functional. When I was a child I said that I would never have a dysfunctional family. I guess its true what they say; never say never. I guess I tried too hard to have a perfect family.

MATTHEW

But that's the thing once you realize your mistake you fix it; don't deny it.

HEATHER

Matthew, I have been a terrible mother to you.

MATTHEW

Mother, no.

HEATHER

I should be in jail. I was supposed to protect you and I allowed an abuser to attack you. Baby, I am so sorry.

MATTHEW

Mother, its okay. I forgive you.

HEATHER

It's not okay. I ruined you. Your life will never be the same.

MATTHEW

Mother, make sure you forgive yourself. It's what being a Christian is about; love and forgiveness.

LISA

*(Enters with traveling bag)*. Is dad back yet? He's supposed to take me to the airport?

HEATHER

You're leaving already?

LISA

Yeah, I caused enough trouble.

HEATHER

No. You just allowed the truth to be revealed. I'm sorry for exposing you to our problems. As an adult I should have been more careful of what I said around you.

LISA

Mother, it's the past. Let it go.

HEATHER

I'm going to miss you.

LISA

You'll see me in May.

HEATHER

How?

LISA

Well, aren't you coming to my graduation?

HEATHER

Oh, yes, of course. I have to make sure Gregory takes care of that. I don't know anything about getting on a plane. Well, you make sure you take care of yourself over there. And no more drinking.

LISA

Yes, mother. (*Doorbell rings*). Who is that?

HEATHER

Hello. How are you?

DELILAH

Good. We just came by to say goodbye to Lisa. She told me she was leaving.

HEATHER

I just wanted to say sorry to the both of you. You know?

DELILAH

Thank you. Brian, have some manners, what do you say?

BRIAN

Thank you.

LISA

Who's at the door?

DELILAH

We are.

LISA

Oh, Ms. D; and Brian. How are you?

DELILAH

Pretty well. We just came by to wish you farewell.

LISA

Thank you. Are you guys coming to the graduation?

DELILAH

I don't know if that would be appropriate.

HEATHER

Why not. Brian should see his sister graduate. It's a family event. I'm pretty sure Gregory can get us all some plane tickets.

DELILAH

Um...well, then I guess yes.

LISA

Oh, great. Well, then I guess I'll see you all in May. Bring sunscreen and only the latest styles. You cannot be caught alive wearing last years fashions in L.A.

GREGORY

*(Enters).* Hey. *(Everyone greets him).* So are you ready college girl.

LISA

Yes, daddy. I am all set.

HEATHER

Oh, Gregory when you get back can you see about getting us all some plane tickets for Lisa's graduation.

GREGORY

Sure.

HEATHER

Including Delilah and Brian.

GREGORY

Uh...sure.

HEATHER

Good. Well, we don't want you to miss your plane. *(Everyone one hugs and says their goodbyes to Lisa. As they do so Gregory and Lisa exit. Black Out).*

THE END