

Christmas Light

The Original Stageplay



Cleveland O. McLeish

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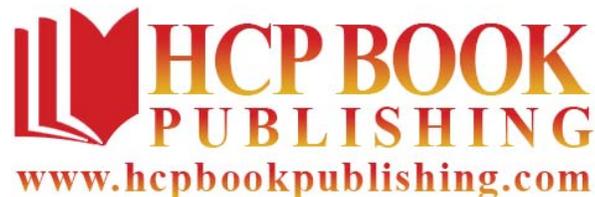


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Characters

Sarah	Grandma (Mother to Cheryl)
Cheryl	Mother to Dre and Abbey. Daughter to Sarah.
Abbey	14-year-old daughter to Cheryl
Dre	15-year-old son to Cheryl
Brian	Cheryl's deceased husband
Mary	Jesus mother
Joseph	Jesus earthly father
Gabriel	Angel/Messenger
Elizabeth	Mary's cousin
Brittany	Cheryl and Brian's first daughter
Innkeeper	
Innkeepers Wife	
Extras (non-speaking roles)	

Setting

1. Living room setting, middle class with appropriate furniture and décor.
2. Outdoor setting, depicting Biblical scenes.

The Story

Christmas Light is a theological journey that will speak to this generation, with emphasis on one of the greatest miracles of all time: the virgin birth of a male Child into this world. Who is this Child and why has He been born under such unusual circumstances?

Sarah believes in God. Cheryl has lost faith. Two teenagers are caught between the opposing beliefs. The authenticity of the Bible is questioned, but in the midst of utter darkness, God will make Himself known.

Play Details

Length: 60-90 Minutes

Cast: 6 Males, 6 Females, Plus extras (non-speaking roles)

Audience: Teens & Adults

Genre: Contemporary/Biblical Drama

THE SCRIPT



SCENE 1

LIGHTS UP

SETTING: *Living Room.*

Sarah sits preparing decorations for the Christmas tree. She is untangling some Christmas lights.

Enter Dre and Abbey. They have some catalogs in their hands, and they jump on the couch and begin going through them.

SARAH: You kids gonna help me with this Christmas tree?

DRE: No time for that Grandma. We got to choose our gifts for Christmas.

ABBEY: Its two days away, and we still can't decide what we want for Christmas this year.

SARAH: So, I guess Christmas is just about gifts for you guys.

DRE: Of course not Grandma. The food too.

ABBEY: Holidays from school.

DRE: And the snow. It's a nice package, and we love it.

SARAH: There is more to Christmas than that.

DRE: Grandma, no preaching, okay. We get enough of that when we go to church.

SARAH: Which is not very often.

ABBEY: You don't really believe the Son of God came to earth do you?

SARAH: When did you two stop believing in Jesus?

ABBEY: Mom says it's just stories.

Pause.

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SARAH: *(calling offstage)* Cheryl!!!

Cheryl comes out quickly.

CHERYL: What is it?

SARAH: Have you been telling these kids that the Christmas story is just a story.

CHERYL: *(relaxes)* I thought you were calling me for something important.

SARAH: This is important.

CHERYL: Mom, I just don't think we need to hang on to some of the old traditions. How is it helping anyone? Why put my kids through the same punishment that I had to endure from my parents.

SARAH: Your father and I taught you the truth of God's word.

CHERYL: I don't see how the Word is relevant anymore. Where are the miracles? My husband died at 36 from lung cancer. You prayed for him, and nothing happened. These kids asked me about that, and I couldn't give them an answer. So, on what do we base our faith?

SARAH: Is that why you stopped coming to church?

CHERYL: Can we talk about this some other time?

SARAH: So, work was just an excuse?

CHERYL: Mom, we get to spend two weeks out of the entire year together. You're not really going to spend it talking to us about church, right?

SARAH: So much of our conversation over the past year has suddenly started to make sense.

CHERYL: The Bible is just another book, and Christmas just another commercial holiday that I intend to enjoy with my kids. If possible, I would appreciate it if you could suppress your unsupported faith and keep it with you in the closet.

Pause.

CHERYL: You kids okay?

DRE: Our list is almost complete, mom.

ABBEY: How many gifts did you say we can get?

CHERYL: We'll see. Just make your list. We will go shopping early in the morning.

ABBEY: Yes!

DRE: You're the greatest mom in the whole wide world.

CHERYL: Dinner is almost ready. Go wash your hands.

Dre and Abbey exit.

CHERYL: I wasn't trying to offend you, mom.

SARAH: I'm fine. Just wish you hadn't done that in front of my grandchildren. How do you expect them to ever listen to what I have to say, or was that your goal?

CHERYL: I miss my husband, okay.

SARAH: And I miss mine, but dying is a part of living.

CHERYL: Jesus once raised a man from the dead after four days. He said greater things we would do. I'm not seeing that mom, so how do we continue believing? He took my first child, then my husband. How do I accept that as God's will?

SARAH: I wish I had all the answers, and I'm sure there is a reason we're not seeing these greater works, but God is real. We should never lose faith in that.

CHERYL: And I will believe again when the reality is once again aligned with the Bible. You always say that God is a practical God. I'm sure He loves us enough to make Himself known, even if we struggle with faith.

Cheryl exits.

SARAH: Father, people are talking. They say You have changed. They question Your authenticity. I know You are real, though I have little evidence to go on. Father, increase the evidence. You said we should ask, believe and it will be done. Thank You for doing it, in Jesus name.

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LIGHTS OUT

SCENE 2

LIGHTS UP

SETTING: *Living Room.*

Sarah puts the finishing touches on the tree.

Cheryl comes on with Abbey and Dre carrying some large boxes and bags. They are very excited.

They put some presents under the tree, and begin opening their shopping bags and boxes.

ABBEY: Gramma, we got a new television and play station.

SARAH: What's a play station?

DRE: You are so old school. It's like the best thing since video games.

ABBEY: It is a video game.

DRE: Exactly.

ABBEY: Well, I hope you got some girl games cuz mommy says this is for the both of us.

DRE: You got an Ipad, so you don't need to get in on this.

ABBEY: Mom says it's for the both of us. That's why there are two remotes.

CHERYL: No arguments please. I am sure I got what each of you had on your list, so be considerate and share.

They set up the television and the play station.

Abbey gets on her Ipad and plugs in her earphones.

DRE: This is the best Christmas ever. With this new cable package, we have over 250 new channels to choose from. I love you, mom.

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CHERYL: You better!

Cheryl gives Sarah a box.

SARAH: What is this?

CHERYL: It's a cell phone.

SARAH: I already have a cell phone.

DRE: This one is a Samsung Galaxy. It can access the internet, skype and even has GPS tracking.

SARAH: I don't need any of that.

CHERYL: Maybe if you learned to use the internet, we wouldn't always have to pay so much just to talk. Skype calls are free and we could see each other.

SARAH: I'm too old for technology. You could have bought me another simple phone to make and receive calls.

DRE: You could even install a Bible app.

Sarah picks up her physical Bible.

SARAH: Already downloaded my Bible app right here.

DRE: Mom, I told you.

CHERYL: Well, had to give it a try.

DRE: So, can I have the phone?

CHERYL: You already have one.

DRE: I could alternate.

CHERYL: Nope.

SARAH: I guess getting all this stuff makes you very happy?

DRE: I have waited all year for this.

SARAH: I'm just saying there is more to life than just getting stuff. Christmas is not about these gifts and presents and getting new stuff. Christmas is nothing without Christ.

CHERYL: Mom, you're doing it again.

SARAH: I guess it's who I am. All things were created by God. How can you find fulfillment in the gifts and not the Giver?

CHERYL: Everything my kids need, I provide. I work hard, and I make my own money. I did all that without God. I would think that whatever little He does, I have done better.

SARAH: There are things even you can't do.

CHERYL: Really! Name one.

The lights go out. The stage is plunged into utter darkness.

ABBEY'S VOICE: Mooooom!

SARAH'S VOICE: Well, you can't turn the electricity back on.

ABBEY'S VOICE: I didn't charge my new Ipad.

DRE'S VOICE: This is not good.

CHERYL'S VOICE: It's probably just a glitch in the system. I'm sure the lights will come back up any minute now.

Pause.

Longer pause.

ABBEY'S VOICE: I think a minute has passed.

CHERYL'S VOICE: I will call the light company.

Cheryl takes out her phone. The screen lights up revealing her face. She begins punching numbers. The phone goes dead.

CHERYL'S VOICE: I think my battery just died. Anybody's phone working?

DRE'S VOICE: We were out all day.

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SARAH'S VOICE: So, my daughter. You were saying?

CHERYL'S VOICE: Not now mom. I need to find some candles.

Pause.