

YES, LORD

By

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THE CHARACTERS.

PASTOR LEROY JOHNSON – Mid 30's male role - A Young intern Pastor who is given a church in a garrison community to pastor.

VANESSA JOHNSON – Mid 30's female role – Leroy's wife and mother to Prim & Julie. She is in no way supportive of her husband's first job.

PRIM – Leroy & Vanessa's daughter. Very assertive and idolizes her father.

JULIE – Leroy & Vanessa's younger daughter. All the innocence of a child.

KAY – 25 year old gang leader. His only weakness is his daughter Kaynisha.

RAY – Gang member

JAY – Gang member.

CALVIN – Youth director, married to Nicole

DOREEN – Church treasurer.

SOPHIA – Church Secretary.

KAYNISHA– Kay's young daughter.

NICOLE- Calvin's wife

(12 Characters: 7 Females and 5 Males)

THE SCRIPT

SCENE 1

SETTING:

Stage is split in two. SL (Stage Left) is an apartment, SR (Stage Right) is inside and outside a Church.

LIGHTS UP.

SETTING: Apartment.

Pastor Leroy Johnson is getting ready to leave for church.

His wife is behind him bickering him as usual.

VANESSA: You still haven't answered my question. When are we moving?

LEROY: Baby, we just moved here yesterday.

VANESSA: So what? There's no rule that says you can't move out the day after you moved in.

LEROY: What's your problem?

VANESSA: Oh, where do I begin? You know sometimes I really don't think you listen when I talk.

LEROY: I try, but you say too much.

Pause.

VANESSA: That's very insulting.

LEROY: You always said to speak the truth.

Leroy reaches for his wife, she pulls away. He backs up and continues getting ready.

VANESSA: When are we leaving?

LEROY: We're back to that again.

VANESSA: You don't expect to raise our daughters in this ghetto. They are already a handful.

LEROY: It's not a ghetto.

VANESSA: Weren't you paying attention?

LEROY: Are you coming to church with me or not?

VANESSA: I don't even know where the church is. I am in no mood for a long walk.

LEROY: So, I'm going alone?

VANESSA: I am not leaving this house. I don't want to get shot and the girl's are not leaving either. I don't want them to get raped.

LEROY: No one is gonna get shot or raped.

VANESSA: How do you know that?

LEROY: Because...this is a pg-13 rated play.

Pause.

VANESSA: You have jokes huh?

Pause.

LEROY: Baby, listen to how quiet this place is.

Pause.

On the outside two men are arguing and pointing in each others face.

LEROY: This is a very peaceful place...I can tell.

One of the men pulls a knife and the other one takes off.

The one with the knife takes chase as they exit.

LEROY: I have never seen any incident on the news about this place. I know it don't look all that...but we can do this.

VANESSA: I don't like it here Leroy. We have two daughters...think about them. You want them walking through this kinda neighborhood to go to school?

LEROY: Baby, we finally have a home.

VANESSA: I don't like it. And besides, they just gave you this house so could take this job.

LEROY: Even so...we have a home.

VANESSA: I don't like it. I think they were very hasty in handling all this...have you ever thought about that. Why were they so willing to find you a place to stay?

LEROY: I don't know...but I can't question God's choices for me.

VANESSA: You really believe God wanted you to be here?

LEROY: Yes, I really do.

Pause.

VANESSA: When you told me that we would be spending Christmas in our own house...I was so excited. I was happy Leroy. But now I'm scared. (a beat) There is so much that you can do...why'd you choose to be a pastor?

LEROY: Nothing else has any true value for me.

VANESSA: Do what you have to do. Just know I won't be happy as long as this is where we live.

LEROY: Van...

VANESSA: No. No more talking. I'm gonna go check on the girls.

Vanessa exits.

Leroy ties his tie and puts on his jacket.

LEROY: Nobody told me...that the road would be easy...but I don't believe you brought me this far...to leave me....

(song here)

Leroy takes up his bible.

He looks for a piece of paper in it...and finds it.

LEROY: Now, to go find my church.

Leroy steps out and walks SR...He looks at the sign which reads Norwood Terrace.

LEROY: Norwood Terrace...great...so South Norwood Terrace should just be a few blocks from here.

He starts to walk stage right...of course the audience already knows where South Norwood Terrace is....

Leroy exits the stage.

A beat.

He backs up and looks at the sign he just passed. He looks at the piece of paper in his hand and then up at the building standing right next to his apartment, being separated only by an alley running up the middle.

LEROY: You have got to be kidding me. (Calling loudly) Vanessa.

Vanessa comes out.

VANESSA: What is it?

LEROY: I think I have some good news and some bad news.

VANESSA: What's the good news?

LEROY: We don't have to walk far to go to church.

VANESSA: What's the bad news?

LEROY: We live next door to the church.

Pause.

VANESSA: I am still not going.

Vanessa goes back inside.

Name of church is: Bible Belt Way Tabernacle Congregational Fellowship AME of North Sacramento

LIGHTS OUT