

THE DEVIL CAME KNOCKING....

Original Stage play

By

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Scene I – THE SETUP

Characters: Voice of Reason (One male & One Female), Friend (male), Youth Leader (Female)

SPOTLIGHT: Voice of Reason (VOR) standing CS.

VOR: Can I tell you a story? One you may all be familiar with....One you may all be able to identify with...May I tell you? Let us use this time to expose the enemy for who he is because sometimes we forget that we fight a spiritual war and sometimes...things aren't what they seem...but often, if not always, if we look deep enough we would be surprised at what lies beneath....

LIGHTS OUT....

A beat

LIGHTS UP...

Sarah is moving about the stage trying to tidy the house. She stops momentarily to allow a thought to pass through her mind...

VOR (offstage) Meet Sarah. Youth Leader and a committed member of the church. She has had a fairly easy Christian journey.....until the devil came knocking at her door...

Enter Male Friend Rohan.

ROHAN: Hey girl. Whats happening?

SARAH: Don't you ever knock.

ROHAN: What for. Anywayz, I got us two tickets to the rock concert tonight.

SARAH: Rohan...

ROHAN: Yeah, I know you gonna tell me church this and church that...but cmon girl you have to have some fun sometime. I mean, let yourself go for a minute. This is the concert of the century.

SARAH: It's a rock and roll concert. The devil gonna be there.

ROHAN: The devil goes to church too. You don't have a problem going there.

SARAH: Why do I even keep you on my friends roll?

Rohan hugs her.

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ROHAN: Cause ya love me, that's why. (sees that shes troubled) Whats up?

SARAH: Why?

ROHAN: I like to see my girl happy and ya aint right now. Whats up?

SARAH: Just have a lot on my mind.

ROHAN: Okay. Like what.

SARAH: I appreciate your concern...but I think I can handle this on my own.

ROHAN: Why would you want to do that? Why did you call me over anyway?

SARAH: I called you over because...because I didn't want to be alone.

ROHAN: I aint staying if you aint talking.

SARAH: I just don't feel like talking aaight.

ROHAN: So you don't need me anymore?

SARAH: That's not what I meant. You have been a very good friend Rohan...I just need to deal with some things on my own, that's all.

ROHAN: So what am I supposed to do now. Sleep?

SARAH: Why not?

ROHAN: Sarah, I'm serious. Talk to me. I can sleep later.

SARAH: You aint gonna stop are you.

ROHAN: No.

Pause.

SARAH: Okay fine. My pastor called me in a meeting yesterday after church. Told me about rumours he's been hearing about me.

ROHAN: What kind of rumours?

SARAH: That I'm living a common law life. With you.

ROHAN: You gotta be kidding me. All this because I stayed here late a few nights.

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SARAH: Yep. He said other things that I don't want to repeat right now...but yeah, that's how much my church family loves me. Can you believe it. Some of my own friends have been talking behind my back.

ROHAN: I told you they were a bunch of hypocrites. I don't know why you insist on being a part of that church.

SARAH: Yeah wow...thanks. I feel so much better now.

ROHAN: I'm not trying to be sarcastic Sarah. The truth is the truth. You deserve so much better. You're educated, smart, highly dependable and proficient...that church does nothing but hold you back.

SARAH: So what am I supposed to do?

ROHAN: Leave...just don't go back. What other choice do you have?

SARAH: How about not having you stay here so late.

ROHAN: Then you would be living your life for them and not for you. Is that what you want?

SARAH: I don't know what I want Rohan. That's just it. I know I don't want people carrying false news about me.

ROHAN: You cant avoid that one sweetheart.

SARAH: I can try.

ROHAN: You need to relax.

SARAH: I'm open to ideas.

Rohan holds up the two tickets.

SARAH: Other ideas.

Rohan pockets the tickets and goes behind her massaging her neck gently.

SARAH: Okay, yeah, this I can appreciate.

ROHAN: I think I may need to do more than just your shoulders.

SARAH: Huh.

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ROHAN: Relax Sarah. It's nothing you haven't done before.

SARAH: Rohan...I do have a conscience and the last time...well I had a hard time with it.

ROHAN: Sarah, we're friends. Friends touch each other and comfort each other all the time. Its just natural. God can't sin you for that.

SARAH: What about everything else?

ROHAN: Well, its not as if we do it all the time. Cmon, I need this as much as you do.

Rohan takes her hand and leads her offstage.

LIGHTS Fade to Spotlight on VOR

VOR: Uhhh....pretty interesting don't you think....very convenient if you ask me. Comfort can present themselves in many ways at the right times too and sometimes in the heat of it all we do forget our problems....sometimes...but at the end of the day we realize that our problems have not been subtracted but multiplied....what then.

LIGHST FADE.

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Scene II – THE CONFIRMATION

Characters: Voice of Reason, Mentor (female), Youth Leader (Female)

LIGHTS UP

SARAH meets with her mentor SIS FLAIR.

SIS FLAIR: You sounded very distraught on the phone dear. Whats wrong?

SARAH: Where do I even begin?

SIS FLAIR: Take your time.

Pause.

SARAH: People I thought cared about me is spreading all kind of rumours about me and... I'm just having a hard time accepting that.

SIS FLAIR: And you're here just because of a few rumours.

SARAH: Well...I also did something...bad....a few times.

SIS FLAIR: (sitting up) Now you have my attention.

SARAH: I have asked God to forgive me...but I still have this urge to do it again.

SIS FLAIR: We're talking about sex right?

SARAH: Do you have to be so plain.

SIS FLAIR: Why waste time beating around the bush and talking in codes. Everybody here knows what we're talking about.

SARAH: The bible actually calls it fornication.

SIS FLAIR: Okay, so you made a few mistakes. Now we know that you're human. So why you beating up yourself exactly.

SARAH: You didn't hear what I said did you.

SIS FLAIR: My bible tells me that no man is perfect. Are you trying to be perfect?

SARAH: What about be he holy even as I am holy.

SIS FLAIR: Do you honestly believe that is possible?

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SARAH: It would not be in the bible if it wasn't.

SIS FLAIR: Then lets talk about bible. Lets talk about David. A man after God's own heart...but he did a little on the side, didn't he. Remember he and Bathsheba. He went as far as to have her husband murdered. Are you getting this?

SARAH: Yes.

SIS FLAIR: Solomon. The wisest man who ever lived. He had many wives and concubines, girlfriends in lay mans terms. He was the wisest man wasn't he?

SARAH: Yes.

SIS FLAIR: The bible supports your imperfections dear. Man is not perfect. We're all prone to mistakes at some point or the other. That's why Jesus died on the cross. To cover our mistakes so don't feel bad if you fall every now and again.

SARAH: Are you saying its okay to have sex every now and again.

SIS FLAIR: Why not?

SARAH: I seriously think you need Jesus.

SIS FLAIR: My dear...I've been saved now for over thirty years. I wouldn't have a child if I had lived a perfect life and look what my daughter has turned out to be...an evangelist. So many people getting saved because I fornicated. It sounds bad but its true. You're not getting any younger dear. One life to live...enjoy it....you are working on having your first child now right?

SCENE FREEZES...

SPOTLIGHT ON VOICE OF REASON

VOR: Uhhh...confusing isn't it. A perfect mixture of truth and lies...so subtle you cant even tell the difference. This is deception at its best. A tricky little device the enemy uses to confirm and confuse. Sarah faces a friend who offers questionable comfort and a mentor who confirms her imperfections.....quickly pulling her to a very serious crossroad where Sarah will be forced to make a choice....as we all are sometimes.

FADE SPOTLIGHT

LIGHTS COME BACK UP

SARAH: Sis Flair, I'm not married yet.

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SIS FLAIR: Soooo.

SARAH: I don't know if I can agree with you Sis Flair...I mean, you do offer wise council sometimes but the bible distinctively said that some things are wrong.

SIS FLAIR: All things work together for good to them that love the Lord. The good, the bad, the right, the wrong....life always balances out itself dear. Its not something we can escape. As long as you remember to repent when you fall you'll be alright.

SARAH: I just think its wrong. As a youth leader in the church I should be setting a better example. How can I be fornicating and going to rock and roll concerts and stand to lead God's people?

SIS. FLAIR: Well then my dear, if you want to be miss perfect and miss holier than thou go ahead and be my guest. I can tell you though that people wont like you then.

Pause.

SARAH: Thank you for your time.

SIS FLAIR: I'm always here for you honey (smile)

LIGHTS FADE

Spotlight on Voice of Reason.

VOR: The devil has many disguises and he works in stages...first The Setup, Then The Confirmation....after that...well, lets just say he puts the icing on the cake. But Sarah has an advantage over the weapons that have been formed against her...she knows Gods word. It's the one thing she cannot ignore.

FADE OUT...

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Scene III – THE CHOICE

Characters: Voice of Reason, Stranger (Female), Youth Leader (Female)

LIGHTS UP

Sarah is having dinner by herself at a nearby restaurant.

Enter Handsome Stranger, Kirk.

He walks pass Sarah and stops. He stands there just looking at her.

SARAH: (sees him staring) What?

KIRK: Are you religious?

SARAH: Why?

KIRK: I think you're the answer to my prayers.

Sarah thinks about this for just a second before bursting out into laughter.

KIRK: What? I'm serious.

SARAH: Let me guess...Heaven is missing an Angel right now huh.

KIRK: Not quite. Actually for a moment there I thought I was in heaven. Can you smile again please?

SARAH: No.

KIRK: Okay..well can you tell me why such a pretty woman like yourself is dining alone.

SARAH: It helps me to think.

KIRK: You have a lot on your mind huh.

SARAH: You could say that.

KIRK: If I'm bothering you I could move right along. Just give the word and I'm gone.

Pause. Sarah looks at stranger more out of interest than annoyance.

SARAH: Are you here to meet someone?

KIRK: Sort of.

SARAH: What does that mean?

KIRK: Well, on my knees last night I was praying to the father letting him know I needed a good woman in my life and he told me to come here at this exact time.

SARAH: Really.

KIRK: Yeah...I know its hard to believe but its true. By the way, do you have a map?

SARAH: No, why?

KIRK: I think I just got lost in your eyes.

SARAH: (blushing) Will you stop that.

KIRK: Sorry. You wouldn't be a magician by any chance.

SARAH: No, why?

KIRK: Everytime I look at you everyone else disappears.

SARAH: Stop. I'm serious.

KIRK: I'm not usually this relaxed around anyone.

SARAH: So you say.

KIRK: I'm Kirk.

SARAH: Nice to meet you Kirk.

KIRK: Peoples first impression of me is usually that I'm a player.

SARAH: Aren't you.

KIRK: I play games, but not hearts.

SARAH: That's comforting. Are you really a Christian?

KIRK: Yah, been for the past ten years.

SARAH: Good for you.

KIRK: Do you have something against Christians.

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SARAH: No. I am too.

KIRK: I sense you're at some sort of a cross roads...that you're undecided about some things. Maybe I can help.

SARAH: You're a pastor now.

KIRK: No...more like an evangelist...a missionary sometimes.

SARAH: I just have one question. Do you think its possible for someone to be perfect?

Pause.

KIRK: Mind if I sit.

SARAH: No go ahead.

Kirk sits and breathes.

KIRK: Yes, I think it is but it depends on your definition of perfection.

SARAH: Holy...sinless as Jesus was.

KIRK: Uhhh, I strongly doubt that anyone can match His strength. We're all prone to mistakes. Its what we do after the mistake that defines who we are.

SARAH: My problem is this...and I cant believe I'm talking to a complete stranger about this...but I keep making the same mistakes I keep repenting for and I can't stop. Why can't I stop? Isn't it because I allow the source of these mistakes to remain.

KIRK: Your mistakes are your own. Why point the finger away from you? At the same time just keep in mind that we all make mistakes.

SARAH: Yes everybody says that. But it doesn't help. Why can't I tell my 'questionable' boyfriend to walk when I know if he remains so close to me I will always fall. Why can't I tell my 'Christian' mentor to walk simply because I'm afraid I may never find anyone else who will listen to my problems or simply because I'm afraid of what the leaders will think of me if I accuse a veteran member of the church of living a 'questionable' life. Why am I so afraid to do what is right?

KIRK: Fear comes natural my fair lady. Mistakes also come natural. It makes no sense we beat ourselves up over it. We make mistakes everyday. Some we plan...some we don't. Why keep rearranging our lives and dumping our friends because of some stupid mistakes.

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SARAH: That's the whole point. God hates sin...doesn't He? Its not just some stupid mistake. Its sin.

KIRK: God understands.

Scene freezes...

Spotlight on Voice of Reason.

VOR: God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power and of love and of a sound mind. Why are we so fearful in doing what is right? The flesh constantly wars against the spirit...the mind against the will of God. But be he not conformed to this world but be he transformed by the renewing of your minds. Those words...Gods word...hidden deep in Sarahs heart will lead her to victory over the enemies devices. No weapons that is formed against her can prosper. She knows her sins....but she knows Gods word and His word is sharper than any two edged sword.

Voice of Reason exits.

Sarah stands to leave.

SARAH: I think I know what I need to do.

KIRK: Can I call you?

SARAH: Kirk...you're handsome and very charming...but I have enough trouble in my life to take on anymore. You're not a true Christian are you?

KIRK: I am who you want me to be sweets.

SARAH: You are who you need to be to get what you want...yeah I know.

Sarah leaves.

Kirk smiles and exits in another direction.

SPOTLIGHT on Voice of Reason.

VOR: We are more than conquerors through Christ who loved us. Sarah told Rohan never to visit her house again. It was hard considering that he was an exceptional friend...but its better to go through this life friendless than to miss Heaven. Sarah spoke to her pastor about Sis Flair. She was stripped of her ministry which caused a great division in the church between those who thought Sarah did the right thing and those who hated her for what she did....but she is surviving. Many tears were shed...many sleepless nights followed her decisions....but she is confident that God is pleased and right

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now...that's all that matters. Many will hate you for making the right choices. Don't let the enemy deceive you. In the end it works in your favour....always. God bless you and Good night.

LIGHTS FADE.