

THE MISEDUCATION OF LAUREN HILLARD

PILOT (FIRST 10 PAGES)

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COLD OPEN

Corinthians 6:13 "The body is not meant for fornication, but for the Lord."

Every time a Bible verse is underlined, it appears as a colorful Lisa Frank-style bubble letter chyron.

INT. - TRUE LIGHT ACADEMY (MID 90S)- MORNING

A small foyer is decorated with a motivational Christian poster, "LET JESUS COME INSIDE YOU!" Underneath, a squad of HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS - cool, but like in a Christian way are decked out in hyper-color shirts, parachute pants, biker shorts, chunky shoes, and bright scrunchies. That's right baby, it's the 90s! They WHISPER and GIGGLE.

ALYSSA

- It's no big deal. We took it at my last school.

HANNAH

Are you kidding? It's a huge deal!

LAUREN

I didn't have to take it.

JANINE

That's because you've always been homeschooled. The only sex lesson you were taught was not walking in on your parents DOING IT.

LAUREN

Eww. Stop. Grody.

JANINE

Dad says the school has to offer a sex ed class.

HANNAH

Well, it's completely inappropriate.

RUTH

Is Pastor Walsh going to talk about...

KRIS

Your vagina?

LAUREN (our Hero, Freshman, ethnically mixed, naive AF) gasps. She slaps her hand over her friend's mouth.

LAUREN

Kris!

KRIS

(muffled)

What? We all have them.

Suddenly everything kicks into SLO-MO as a dream boat, JOHN-THOMAS (Sophomore, dumber Mark-Paul Gosselaar with zits) struts in. Lauren stares at him slack jawed.

LAUREN V.O.

1 John 2:16 "The lust of the flesh,  
and the lust of the eyes is not of  
the Father, but is of the world."

JANINE (Freshman, popular pastor's kid) nudges Lauren.

JANINE

Heeeeyyyy John-Thomas.

LAUREN

Janine. Hey John-Thomas... sooo did your parents sign your thingy?

JOHN-THOMAS

The permission slip? Yeah. But I already know about sex.

His buddy BRETT (Junior, dorky and scrawny) stares off longingly.

BRETT

I wonder if they'll have pictures.

LAUREN

Cool. So... see you in class?

JOHN-THOMAS

Yah. See you in sex...

The word "SEX" blows out of his mouth and swirls in the wind like he's Rafiki from *THE LION KING*. Lauren can practically touch the word as it glides past her eyes.

FANTASY:

John-Thomas hovers slightly off the ground. His neon wind jacket breathes along with Lauren's INTENSIFYING HEARTBEAT. A Christ-like glow surrounds him. She stares.

JOHN-THOMAS (CONT'D)  
- ed class.

PRESENT:

Back to his mortal self and back on the ground, John-Thomas walks to class as Lauren gazes at his wide-legged JNCO jeans backside. She's in love. He's oblivious.

LAUREN V.O.  
Holy Spirit? Is that you I feel  
tingling in my front-butt?

A SMALL CLASSROOM - LATER THAT DAY

The room is buzzing with anticipation. PASTOR WALSH (slick evangelical type with a flare for the dramatic) enters.

PASTOR WALSH  
Listen up! Especially you, Janine.

JANINE  
Dad!!

PASTOR WALSH  
Pastor Walsh when we're at school.  
(then) As you all know, the  
government is forcing us to teach a  
sex ed class. They're literally  
ramming sex down our throats.

The class GIGGLES.

PASTOR WALSH (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry, do you find AIDS funny?

The immediate SILENCE is finally interrupted by HANNAH  
(Senior, most likely to grow up and start a megachurch)

HANNAH  
Pastor Walsh, my parents don't want  
me indoctrinated with society's  
effort to brainwash us into sexual  
perversion. And honestly, neither  
do I.

PASTOR WALSH  
Well put, Hannah. Why don't you  
write me a five page essay on that  
very subject.

She fist pumps and exits. Pastor Walsh takes a deep breath.  
He hangs a Ten Commandment shaped poster:

"IF YOU HAVE PREMARITAL SEX YOU...

1. Are a sinner
2. Will contract an STD
3. Will get pregnant
4. Are going against God's will
5. Are unclean in the eyes of the Lord
6. Won't have good marital relations with your future husband
7. Will spiral down a path of alcohol and drugs
8. Will disappoint God
9. Will ruin your life
10. Should be ashamed

PASTOR WALSH (CONT'D)  
Premarital sex. Don't. Do it.

LAUREN  
(sotto)  
That's it. What the heck?

PASTOR WALSH  
Any questions?

Everyone in the room slowly raises their hand.

PASTOR WALSH (CONT'D)  
Only those planning on having  
premarital intercourse should have  
questions. Right?

Everyone slowly puts their hands down.

TITLE CARD: "THE MISEDUCATION OF LAUREN HILLARD"

END COLD OPEN

ACT ONEINT. JUST OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM - THAT SAME AFTERNOON

The older students pull down tables with attached benches, while the younger kids file in from their classrooms. There's a whopping total of five rooms at True Light. "K5-2nd", "3rd-5th", "7th-8th", "HIGH SCHOOL," and "OFFICE/LIBRARY". O Six rooms if you count the Foyer/Cafeteria/Sometimes Chapel.

The LUNCH CHATTER ceases the moment Pastor Walsh enters.

## PASTOR WALSH

When Janine's mom went to live with Jesus, the Lord came to me in a dream. He told me to start True Light Christian Academy so our youth could learn through Christ. And now, I'm proud to say that just like the loaves and fishes, we're multiplying. Everyone, meet our newest student, Kara!

Before the shocked group is KARA in all black, Doc Martins, choker necklace and a chain wallet. She stand expressionless.

## LAUREN V.O.

Lord, thank you for making me your vessel to bring Kara to salvation.  
John 20:21 "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

## PRINCIPAL WALSH

Hannah, as our Senior, the assistant youth group leader, President of the Bible and Purity Club, would you like to say the lunch prayer?

## HANNAH

You know it!

They all hold hands and close their eyes.

## HANNAH (CONT'D)

Heavenly Father, thank you for the hands of our moms who prepared...

Lauren pops open an eye. She peers around the room, too frightened to look at Kara.

HANNAH (CONT'D)  
- bless us with your light and...

LAUREN  
(sotto: re Hannah's  
prayer)  
Wow. So good.

She spots KRIS (Sophomore, outspoken yet closeted). She cracks her knuckles. Something seems... different about her.

HANNAH  
In Jesus's name...

Lauren quickly closes her eyes and joins back in.

ALL  
Amen.

They sit to eat.

JANINE  
Whatcha think of the new girl?

LAUREN  
She seems...  
(off Kara's surly face)  
- nice.

RUTH (Freshman, gossipy, kinda dumb) picks at her Lunchable.

RUTH  
I hear she's a Satanist.

ALYSSA  
I mean, her clothes are safety  
pinned together.

LAUREN  
Maybe that's just her style.

ALYSSA (Junior, affluent) eyes Ruth's processed "meat" pucks.

ALYSSA  
Eww. That's offensive to stylish  
people and safety pins.

Ruth LAUGHS so hard she needs her inhaler.

JANINE  
All I know is that she definitely  
brought a dead crow for lunch.

LAUREN

Really?

JANINE

No! God you're gullible.

Kara crosses to her locker, but Lauren jumps in the way.

LAUREN

Hi, I'm Lauren! That's Janine.  
We've been best friends since I  
first started going to  
TLCOTRACAFOP. That stands for True  
Light Christ of the Rock Christian  
Assembly Fellowship of Prayer.  
That's our church. Do you go to  
church?

KARA

No.

LAUREN

I know our school must be totally  
different from wherever you came  
from. Which is?...

They all lean in hoping for an answer. Kara gives none.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

I know it was for me. Then again I  
was homeschooled my whole life so  
of course it's different. (beat)  
I know True Light is smaller than  
most schools, but I always say,  
just like David defeated Goliath,  
we are mighty... Only of course our  
Goliath is the perils of this  
secular world.

Kara stares, bored.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

Anyway, just want you to know you  
can consider me your personal...

Kara abruptly walks away.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

- welcome committee. Alrighty.

Janine sticks out her tongue and makes devil finger horns.



INT. - LOCKER AREA - LATER

With the tables now put away, the cafeteria is back to being just a foyer. Ruth roots through her locker. Inside hangs Jesus-themed Koosh balls, Beanie Babies, and of course a mini mirror. She and Brett flirt as he hands her a DC Talk CD. MRS. WEST (the strict, mean teacher) spies them.

MRS. WEST  
Room for the Holy Spirit, you two.

They blush and step apart.

RUTH  
Sorry, Ms. West.  
(to Brett)  
This is perfect for my worship  
dance troupe. Thank you so much!

BRETT  
Totes. Whoa! You have the Harry  
Potter book?

RUTH  
Shhh...

BRETT  
You know how Pastor Walsh feels  
about the occult.

RUTH  
Then, extra shh....

Ruth puffs her inhalers and exits.

LAUREN  
Does she really have the Harr...

Everything slows down as John-Thomas walks towards her.

LAUREN (CONT'D)  
- rrry... John. Thomas.

He shakes the hair out of his eyes as we MORPH into a

FANTASY:

EXT. THE BEACH

John-Thomas wears jorts, a "SAVED" necklace, and no shirt. He runs ala BAYWATCH, his one chest hair blowing in the wind.

JOHN-THOMAS  
Yo.

LAUREN

Yo.

JOHN-THOMAS

Can you move?

LAUREN

Like dance? We're not supposed...

She does an odd little jig.

JOHN-THOMAS

I mean, out of the way.

She's back in THE PRESENT and steps away from his locker.

LAUREN

Oh right. Right. Sorry.

LAUREN V.O.

Forgive me for the lust in my heart. Proverbs 15:3 "The eyes of the LORD are everywhere."

She stares, lost in his beauty.

INT. SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - LATER

The whiteboard reads: "CUSSWORD ALTS - CHEESE AND RICE! DADGUM, STINKIN, BULL PUCKEY, FUDGE, GOD BLESS AMERICA"

MRS. SHOWALTER (the friendly, dumpy teacher) hands out a test to three of the students.

MRS. SHOWALTER

- and bless our juniors and senior with the gift of memory, for they have studied in your name. Amen.

The class ECHOES. She turns to the six other students, the freshmen and sophomores. They open their books.

MRS. SHOWALTER (CONT'D)

The Ancient Greeks were known for?

Janine smugly shoots her hand up.

JANINE

The Polis or City-state.

MRS. SHOWALTER

Correct. In 500 B.C., only 1200 years after God created earth, he gave man art.

(MORE)

MRS. SHOWALTER (CONT'D)  
Now, Greek Mythology says that Pandora was the first woman, but we know it was...

Again, Janine knows the answer.

JANINE  
That would be Eve.

MRS. SHOWALTER  
Absolutely correct.

MRS. SHOWALTER (CONT'D)  
Oh, fudge nuggets! I forgot to Xerox the study guides. I'll be back. Class, please use this time to study or pray quietly.

She exits. Janine immediately turns around to Lauren.

JANINE  
Hey! You going to Ruth's sleepover?

LAUREN  
Totally. If my mom lets me.

JANINE  
Marcus wants to go to Makeout Park.

LAUREN  
Oh. Cool.

LAUREN V.O.  
Dear Jesus, please don't let her go to Makeout Park. It's already bad enough she has a secret boyfriend.  
Luke 17:1-2 "Woe to the one to whom temptations comes."

Janine's clothes MORPH into a dominatrix outfit.

FANTASY:

LAUREN V.O. (CONT'D)  
It would be better if a millstone were hung around her neck and she cast into the sea."

She ties a rope attached to a stone around her neck and JUMPS off her desk, somehow falling for a really long time.

JANINE  
Makeout parrrrrrkkkkk....