

Scene 2

*Lights come up in the dormitory, all girls
but Evie are present.
They all crowd around Clare who is telling
them a juicy story.
The line-up of beds in the dormitory will go
(from L to R)
Evie, Bridget, Margaret, Clare, Faith,
Catherine*

CLARE

He was just so sweet, I don't even know. It was like, I knew I had to get to Sister Mary Paul's class, but I wasn't even worried about it because here's this beautiful, nice *boy*... I just couldn't cut him off! I was willing to take whatever I had coming for more time to listen to him. Finally I said I really had to go but I waited just a bit more and watched him walk back into his dormitory!

MARGARET

I think we all can agree we would've done the same exact thing.

CATHERINE

(kind of under her breath, judgmental) Speak for yourself.

MARGARET

Well, *I'D* be late to class for ANY boy! I haven't seen a boy who isn't a priest in like a million years. You know, I'm even kind of starting to forget what they look like... hey Catherine, could you pull your hair back real quick?

CATHERINE

Oh shut up!

The girls laugh

MARGARET

(Being a total ham) I can't help it baby I'm crazy about you!

CATHERINE

Margaret you are the most obnoxious person I've ever met!

MARGARET

Pshh, oh Cathy, I'm blushing.

CATHERINE

Do NOT call me *Cathy*.

FAITH

Okay, shut up! I want to hear more, Clare. What's his name!?

CLARE

Peter. UGH, Peter! He is so *hot*. I didn't even know boys could look like that. He's got dark brown hair with a little hint of red in it and huge green eyes. And cute little freckles. He had his uniform pants on but his oxford was off so he only had on his white T shirt. He was practicing lacrosse because he wants to try out for Saint Sebastian's team. He threw the ball *so* far it ended up on OUR side of the lawn.

BRIDGET

So you just ran into a Saint Sebastian boy during school hours? That's like, so rare! Usually you would have to stay out until after our outdoor hours have ended to even just sneak a peek.

CLARE

I guess I just got lucky!

MARGARET

No, the word for that is *divine intervention*.

CATHERINE

First of all, that's two words, and second of all, that is not divine intervention.

MARGARET

SHUN THE NONBELIEVER!

FAITH

Would you guys let Clare finish!

CATHERINE

I didn't do anything!

CLARE

Okay! Not that much else happened except he told me I was the most beautiful girl he's ever seen and that he wants to see me again!!

MARGARET

"Not that much happened" oh yeah! Because boys *always* just go around casually telling girls they're *the most beautiful girl he's ever seen!!!*

BRIDGET

Are you gonna see him again!?

CLARE

I hope so!

CATHERINE

But how? You'd have to sneak out and you can NOT do that!

MARGARET

Oh come on Catherine, live a little.

FAITH

No, Margaret, she's right. Sneaking out is like, really risky. *(Almost a whisper)* You could get *canned* for that. Not worth it.

MARGARET

Oh please, no Sister is going to cane *Saint Clare*. They all love her. Did you see how Sister reacted today when she was late for class? You'd probably just have your outside hours' privileges taken away for the rest of the year.

CLARE

I don't know... maybe he'll just accidentally throw the ball too far again.

Evie enters the dormitory

BRIDGET

Hey Evie!

EVIE

Hey, you're all in my Theology class.

FAITH

Yeah, they assign the Theology classes to the same dormitories. They want us to practice morality above anything else I guess.

EVIE

Right.

BRIDGET

How was your first day?

EVIE

It was fine, I guess. This is a lot different than my old Catholic school in New York, though. Literally everyone who works here is a nun or a priest. You have no freedom here. Everyone is all up in each other's business.

MARGARET

Ah, yes, you'll get used to having no privacy soon enough. I moved to the middle school here after going to... wait for it... public school. So I get where you're coming from. Everyone else has been here their whole lives essentially.

EVIE

Public school? What made you come here?

MARGARET

(she says this kind of humorously, not sad) Oh my parents died so I had to move in with my crazy Catholic grandparents who didn't want to raise kids again.

EVIE

Oh... I'm sorry.

MARGARET

It's cool, but that's why I'm not as "devout" as everyone else though.

CATHERINE

Margaret likes to make it seem like people get "sent" here, like we're delinquents or something. I, for one, love Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton's. My parents did not send me here to punish me or because they don't want to be around me, they wanted me to be able to practice our faith in the best place to do so *and* going to this school is practically guaranteed admission to Notre Dame. So, I love it here. I don't care what they have to say.

MARGARET

(Clapping) wow, that was beautiful...I...I think I might cry. *(Faking being moved)*

CATHERINE

Could you shut it for like 2 minutes!?

MARGARET

If you do my homework for a week.

CATHERINE

(annoyed sound like when you want to hit someone but can't)

CLARE

I don't hate it here. My mom went here and my dad went to St. Sebastian's across the lawn.

FAITH

Which is how Clare is meeting her future husband too!

EVIE

Hey, do any of you guys have some extra tampons? I had to use some toilet paper for now because I'm out and didn't see any and I don't know when I can go get some.

CATHERINE

Um... probably never. *(is this girl dumb??)*

Huh? EVIE

We don't use tampons. FAITH

...What? EVIE

None of us are allowed to use tampons. BRIDGET

Are you guys being sarcastic? EVIE

Was it not like that at Our Lady of Lourdes? FAITH

The *school* doesn't let you use tampons? EVIE

CATHERINE
Not the school, the faith. You shouldn't put anything up...there... until you and your husband are ready to make a baby.

It's a tampon? What the fuck? EVIE

All the girls audibly gasp

Guess you guys aren't big on cursing either.

BRIDGET
(*totally shocked*) It's like you're from a different planet...!?

Bridget! FAITH

BRIDGET
Not in a bad way! I've just never heard anyone say the F word in real life!

EVIE
You guys have got to be messing with me.

CLARE
We aren't!

MARGARET

We really aren't. I was shocked when I got here from public school and students here never had seen a real life fight.

EVIE

I've seen people get mugged before.

BRIDGET

Oh my gosh, really?

EVIE

Yeah but back to the point, you can't use *tampons*??? That is the stupidest thing I've ever heard.

CATHERINE

It makes sense. God made your private parts for the creation of new life, nothing else is supposed to go in there.

EVIE

Okay. Well. Then why did God make me bleed out of my vagina every month?

CATHERINE

Don't be vulgar... just use a pad.

EVIE

That's disgusting.

CLARE

We don't really have another choice... I'm sorry.

EVIE

So... none of you guys have put...*anything* up your vagina?

BRIDGET

What would we have put in?

EVIE

Like... your fingers?

FAITH

Eww, why would we do that?

EVIE

You know... to pleasure yourself?

CLARE

What's pleasing about it?

EVIE

None of you guys have ever made yourself orgasm?

CATHERINE

Ever what?

EVIE

Orgasmed? It's like this wild sensation that feels really good when your body is sexually stimulated.

CATHERINE

You're only supposed to have sex when you make children.

EVIE

Do you guys know anything about your vaginas?

BRIDGET

Sister Mary Paul said that when it comes time to have sex with our husbands he will know everything we need to know. Men don't like women who know too much about sex. It makes them seem like a slut. Your husband wants to know that you waited faithfully for him.

EVIE

Okay now that's the most ridiculous thing I've heard yet.

CATHERINE

I can't believe they didn't teach you that at Our Lady?

EVIE

I mean, we learned that the church believes in abstinence and all but it just wasn't that big of a deal. One girl did get kicked out my freshman year because she got pregnant, though.

BRIDGET

Someone you went to *high school* with got PREGNANT!?

EVIE

Yeah.

FAITH

Not married???

EVIE

No, it was a total accident. The guy who knocked her up didn't even get kicked out of school like she did which was bullshit.

MARGARET

Did people at your school like... have sex?

EVIE

Oh yeah, so many of them.

CATHERINE

Well, this is why we are separated. Because some people can't exercise self-control.

EVIE

I can't believe you guys haven't gotten horny and fooled around with yourself a bit.

BRIDGET

I don't even know where my vagina is. Like I *know* where it is but I haven't ever touched it and been like "there it is".

EVIE

Well, honestly, in my opinion masturbating feels best when you just rub your clit.

BRIDGET

Your what?

EVIE

Your *clitoris*?? Have they seriously not even told you guys about your clitoris?

FAITH

Nope.

EVIE

Your clit is like... at the top of your vagina I guess and it like... I don't know when you rub it, it stimulates everything and it causes an orgasm. It feels so good, I can't believe you've never done it.

CLARE

It sounds kind of suspicious.

CATHERINE

Yeah that does not sound like something that as Catholics we should be doing.

EVIE

It's not bad. It's just pleasuring yourself. It won't hurt anybody.

FAITH

It sounds like something we'd get in trouble for.

EVIE

You can't get in trouble for touching your own vagina.

MARGARET

At this school nothing belongs to you.

EVIE

None of you have ever touched your clit?

The girls nod their heads no

What about when you were younger? Didn't you like... hump things?

BRIDGET

“hump”?

EVIE

Nevermind... that's just wild you never had your... you know, *sexual discovery*. I had mine on my own. And then I read more about it in Cosmo—(*realizing they won't know what that is either*) it's a magazine. So I knew I wasn't just weird, it's really common. Because everyone gets horny. I always heard people from Our Lady talking about being horny and sex and stuff.

CLARE

What is “horny”?

EVIE

Jesus Christ. Have you never seen someone and felt like it got kinda hot and tingly and wet down there?

CLARE

Maybe... I don't know, I don't think I would notice if I did!

FAITH

(*Omg! Realization*) I know what you're talking about. Sometimes I used to rub myself against my chairs in class because it felt good. (!?!?!?)

EVIE

Exactly! See, our bodies are *meant* to feel that kind of pleasure.

BRIDGET

I think I know that feeling... sometimes... sometimes I have dirty thoughts. I've always felt so bad about them. I never touched myself though, I didn't know that's what you do.

CATHERINE

This is grossing me out, can we stop talking about this.

MARGARET

Your vagina starting to tingle Catherine?

CATHERINE

You're disgusting.

EVIE

It's not disgusting! It's just your body. No one should feel embarrassed because of the fact they think about sex.

CATHERINE

Think about sex all you want, but count me out.

EVIE

Your loss. Anybody else interested?

MARGARET

I'm in.

CATHERINE

Of course you are.

EVIE

Why are you judging us for the fact we wanna pleasure our own bodies? Why does it concern you?

Catherine huffs and walks out

FAITH

I kinda wanna know too... but I'm afraid. I don't want to upset God.

CLARE

I think... I think maybe when I saw Peter today in his white t shirt... I think that my body did the thing you were talking about. What is it?

EVIE

Getting horny!

CLARE

It just sounds so gross!

EVIE

It's not! It's personal, yes, but it's not gross. It's normal.

BRIDGET

If it's normal then why don't we learn about it?

EVIE

I don't know... but we should be able to learn about things about our own bodies. I'll ask Sister

Mary Paul about it in class on Friday!

BRIDGET, CLARE, AND FAITH

(some variation of “no!” “what!?” “umm” “wait” “don’t do that”)

EVIE

See! Part of the problem is that we feel like we can’t even ask about it!

MARGARET

Sounds like a bad idea, but surprisingly, I’m in.

FAITH

Yeah no one is surprised

EVIE

Besides, Sister Mary Paul seemed cool it’ll be fine

MARGARET

HAH! Sister Mary Paul is NOT cool.

FAITH

You just haven’t made her mad yet. And I’m sure this will do it.

MARGARET

Anyone here whose name starts with “Sister” is not cool. Same with Father, Deacon, Brother... you get the gist.

EVIE

Do you guys want to learn more about sex and vaginas and stuff or not? Or at least why I can’t even use a tampon?

Beat

MARGARET

I do, but I don’t need the Sister’s to have another reason to think I’m the antichrist

CLARE

We’ll... just have to get back to you on that.

EVIE

Okay. Well, I’m gonna go shove more toilet paper up my vagina, ‘cause I know where mine is.

*Evie exits, leaving the girls to think
Lights down on this scene*

Scene 7

*Margaret, Faith, and Clare walk in
Everyone starts to get ready for bed while
they are talking*

MARGARET

(sing-songy) It's almost tiiiime!

CLARE

I can't wait to talk more about everything!

FAITH

I'm learning... a lot of things about myself.

MARGARET

It's all I've been thinking about all day.

*Catherine walks in
No one says anything*

CATHERINE

Are you guys going to talk about touching yourselves again tonight?

MARGARET

So what if we are?

EVIE

Catherine if it makes you that uncomfortable we can go to the bathroom to talk about it

MARGARET

She should go into the bathroom not us!

EVIE

No seriously I don't want to force anyone to talk about this if they don't want to.

CATHERINE

(swallowing a lot of pride here) Well, actually. I was wondering if I could join. Just to learn a little.

FAITH

Did you...?

CATHERINE

No... I just don't want you guys to know more about something than me, that's all.

MARGARET

(proud mother) Aww, you did. Yay Catherine!!!

CATHERINE

Oh shut up, I still don't feel good about it.

MARGARET

Who'd you think about?

CATHERINE

I don't know.

CLARE

Come on, Catherine, we're all comfortable here.

EVIE

You don't have to tell us if you don't want to.

MARGARET

She probably thought about Jesus himself.

CATHERINE

You can add 10 extra years onto your time in purgatory for that comment, Margaret.

MARGARET

Worth it.

CATHERINE

I'm not telling you all anything. *(making fun of Bridget)* But it's not Father Michael that's for sure.

The girls except Bridget laugh

BRIDGET

Stop it! He's *CUTE!* What happened to not judging!?

CLARE

I'm sorry, Bridget, we're just kidding.

MARGARET

Faith, did you ever find a guy to think about?

FAITH

Not yet... is that weird?

EVIE

No! I mean, you don't even have to think about anyone, I just think it helps. Nothing any of you guys feel is weird.

Catherine stands up on top of her bed

CATHERINE

IF GOD DIDN'T WANT ME TO MASTURBATE, THEN WHY DID HE GIVE ME A CLITORIS!?

*The girls are taken aback by this
huge proclamation at first
then Margaret stands on her bed and adds on*

MARGARET

IF GOD DIDN'T WANT US TO ORGASM, THEN WHY DID HE MAKE IT FEEL SO GOOD!?

BRIDGET

MY VAGINA IS MINE TO DO WITH WHAT I PLEASE!

FAITH

YEAH! I LOVE VAGINAS! (*oh shit*) LIKE, YOU KNOW, TOUCHING MY OWN.

CLARE

I'M GONNA BURST! I FEEL SO WILD AND SO FREE! I'M GONNA GO SEE PETER! I'M GONNA TEACH HIM EVERYTHING I KNOW!

Beat

The girls are unsure about this idea

EVIE

Clare... are you sure about this?

CATHERINE

How would you even find him?

CLARE

I don't know! I'll find a way! I saw which dormitory he lives in! I'll knock on windows if I have to! I'm going to see that boy again and I'm going to do it tonight!

EVIE

Has anyone ever successfully snuck over to St. Sebastian's before?

MARGARET

If anyone can do it, Clare Sullivan can.

CLARE

I have to... I've never felt so free, I wanna do what *I* wanna do and I wanna see Peter!

Clare looks around at everyone

FAITH

Well... I'm not going to stop you...

MARGARET

Go Clare! Be free! And tell us what it's like on the other side!

CATHERINE

Good grief Margaret we aren't in a concentration camp. I don't think it's a good idea, and I think you'll have to spend the entirety of next year in confession... but do what you want to do Clare, just be safe.

CLARE

Is this crazy!? It's crazy!

MARGARET

It's totally crazy, but that's what makes it fun.

CLARE

I literally just this week found out about *any* of this stuff, I have no idea how to do any of it with Peter!

EVIE

Don't do anything that you aren't comfortable with or you're not ready for.

CATHERINE

Now you're the play it safe one?

MARGARET

He'll know what to do Clare. The St. Sebastian boys have more freedom than we do.

CLARE

Okay, I'm doing it! What's the worst that can happen?

MARGARET

Probably best not to think about that scenario, it isn't pretty... But it won't happen. I have Latin class with Angela Connor and she told me that her junior year she snuck out to go see *Pretty Woman* at the movie theater and didn't get caught. She said that none of the sisters expect anyone to even try to sneak out so they don't go looking.

CLARE

How do I look?

MARGARET

Like a dream for a boy locked in a building with all males.

FAITH

You look beautiful!

EVIE

Be safe, Clare. I don't really know that much about doing things with guys cause I've never done it. But I've read about it and I've seen pictures. Don't have sex without a condom and always establish ground rules, only go as far as you want to go. Also, penises are really ugly. He'll probably want to have oral sex, that's when you put the penis in your mouth and suck on it.

FAITH

Eww, people do that!?

CLARE

That's disgusting... I'll tell you all about it!

Clare excitedly but super quietly and carefully exits

CATHERINE

I don't feel good at all about this, but I didn't want to be the buzzkill again... but shouldn't we be worried?

EVIE

She'll be okay, you learn most these things by experience anyway. There's only so much I can tell you about what you do with a guy based off of just reading about it.

FAITH

You've never done anything with a boy before?

EVIE

Nope. Is that surprising?

CATHERINE

Kind of, with how much you know about everything else and because people at your school had sex.

MARGARET

I've had my first kiss. 4th grade, on the playground. It was wild.

EVIE

Boys didn't really talk to me at my school. But neither did the girls really. My parents thought

I'd developed poor social skills so their solution was to send me here so I'd be forced to make friends.

FAITH

I guess it's not that hard to fake social skills around us, since we clearly don't know anything about anything. Bridget is the worst about that, she has no idea about *any* social normalities.

BRIDGET

I've been thinking... Maybe God doesn't know how good the female orgasm feels because he isn't one?

MARGARET

That's what you've been working on?

CATHERINE

Bridget, God knows everything...

EVIE

You could be on to something Bridget... Or... *(standing on the bed) (she's making a proclamation, but is still cautious of the fact it is nighttime)* GOD IS A WOMAN! AND SHE GAVE ME A CLIT! *(starting the chant) (the chant starts slow, then gets faster)* GOD IS A WOMAN AND SHE GAVE ME A CLIT!

ALL

GOD IS A WOMAN AND SHE GAVE ME A CLIT!
GOD IS A WOMAN AND SHE GAVE ME A CLIT!
(Getting progressively louder and careless) GOD IS A WOMAN AND SHE GAVE ME A CLIT!

MARGARET

And then God said: "LET THERE BE ORGASMS" and it was *good*.

*The girls are laughing
and having a good time
Sister Mary Paul angrily enters*

SISTER

What is going on? You girls better pray that my ears deceive me and you were not yelling what it sounded like were yelling.

The girls are silent

Now you cannot speak up? Go on, tell me what the meaning of all of this is. You woke up five sisters. Sister Agatha is prepared to wallop each of you, you are all lucky I said I would deal with this.

CATHERINE

(on the verge of tears) I'm sorry Sister Mary Paul.

SISTER

Catherine Kowalski... I am so surprised at you.

EVIE

It's my fault Sister, I started being loud and I got everyone excited.

SISTER

I knew that before I walked into the room, Ms. Connolly. Before you got here nothing like this would have happened. I hope you feel ashamed of yourself. If you were a real friend to these girls you would keep quiet instead of creating trouble.

MARGARET

Evie is the best friend I've ever had! I've learned more from her than I have from anyone here!

SISTER

This doesn't surprise me either, perhaps if you had been sent here for your upbringing you wouldn't have such obnoxious tendencies, Ms. Pelletier.

FAITH

(so super nervous about this) I've been here basically my whole life... and I still think Evie is a blessing!

SISTER

If you all want to follow in Evie's footsteps, and if you want to indulge in all the sinful, lustful, immoral thoughts she has planted into your heads be my guest. But if I were you I'd worry more about expulsion. That is not an empty threat. If you do not immediately get your acts together and show up for Father Michael's confession in the morning then—
Where is Clare Sullivan?

*Sister has just noticed that Clare is missing,
The girls had not even thought about that until now*

Do not make me ask again, ladies. Where is Clare Sullivan?

EVIE

She was uncomfortable with what we were talking about so she said she had to leave the room. She didn't tell us where, maybe she's hiding out in the bathroom?

FAITH

She's probably praying for our souls.

MARGARET

It's our fault she left, she didn't want to hear about the sins we were discussing, she knew it

would upset God.

BRIDGET

Maybe she fell asleep so she hasn't come back yet.

Beat

SISTER

Catherine, are they telling me the truth? Did Clare leave because she was uncomfortable? Remember, Catherine, a lie to protect a friend is still a sin.

*Catherine is so torn,
she wants to do the right thing
she is still on the verge of tears*

CATHERINE

She snuck out to see a boy from St. Sebastian's.

SISTER

Your involvement in the rest of this will be forgiven due to your honesty, Ms. Kowalski. As for the rest of you, we will discuss the punishment for your sinful lack of modesty and your lies tomorrow.

Sister Mary Paul exits

MARGARET

What the hell, Catherine!?

*Catherine doesn't know what to say
She goes to her bed and silently cries alone.
All the other girls silently get in bed*