

IN THE LIGHT

Concept: Tanya Price
Choreographer: Tanya Price, Adrienne Buhler, Darin Dueck, Jeff Renaud
Song: In the Light
Artist: DC Talk
CD: Jesus Freak
Biblical reference: Matthew 5:14; Isaiah 2:5; Proverbs 4:18-19; 1 John 1:7

“In the Light” portrays the power and influence of Satan and the victory and triumph of Jesus Christ. It shows two characters that represent any human being created by God. One character chooses to reject God and by doing so gives Satan a hold on her life. Eventually gaining control of her, Satan begins to manipulate her actions and soon traps her in a box of sin. In this drama, the box is portrayed as one of substance and alcohol abuse; the box, however, can represent anything that is entrapping and enslaving. The second character chooses to give her life over to Jesus and celebrates this relationship with praise and worship to Him. After struggling within the box, the first girl desperately looks to God for the victory. When she prays to Him, He gives her strength to break free from the sin. Both characters walk jubilantly in the light of Christ as God defeats Satan victoriously! The battle is won! The characters bow in worship to their Lord.

LYRICS

I keep trying to find a life
On my own, apart from You
I am the king of excuses
I've got one for every selfish thing I do

What's going on inside of me?
I despise my own behaviour
This only serves to confirm my suspicions
That I'm still a man in need of a Saviour

[CHORUS]
I wanna be in the light
As You are in the light
I wanna shine like the stars in the heavens
Oh Lord, be my light and be my Salvation
'Cause all I want is to be in the light
All I want is to be in the light

This disease of self runs through my blood
It's a cancer fatal to my soul
Every attempt on my behalf has failed
To bring this sickness under control

Tell me, what's going on inside of me?
I despise my own behaviour
This only serves to confirm my suspicions
That I'm still a man in need of a Saviour

[CHORUS]
Honesty becomes me
There's nothing left to lose
The secrets that did run me
In Your presence are defused
Pride has no position
And riches have no worth
The fame that once did cover me
Has been sentenced to this earth

[CHORUS x2]

CHARACTERS

Bad Girl: female
Good Girl: female
God: male
Satan: male

PROPS/ COSTUMES

1 white t-shirt

OVERVIEW OF ALL MEASURES

(each measure is 4 beats)

- 8 Bad Girl created
- 2 Bad Girl stands, admires self
- 1 Bad Girl rejects God
- 5 Bad Girl walks in place, looking at herself with pride
- 8 Satan attacks Bad Girl, makes her his puppet
- 10 Bad Girl in box

- 6 Good Girl created
- 2 Good Girl stands, admires self
- 2 Good Girl turns and praises God
- 6 Good Girl praises

- 10 Good Girl dances 'In the Light' dance routine

- 17 Satan forces Bad Girl to smoke, drink, and do drugs
- 4 Bad Girl cries out to God, prays
- 4 God frees Bad Girl, helps her stand

- 10 Both girls dance 'In the Light' dance routine

- 4 Both girls do abstract arms moves in front of God
- 2 Both girls pray; God stands behind them
- 2 Bad Girl spins and praises
- 2 Good Girl spins and praises
- 4 Both girls turn and praise

DETAILED DRAMA SCRIPT

(see glossary at end of script for explanations of underlined terms and positions)

At the start of the drama, Bad Girl kneels at stage left, Good Girl at stage right. They kneel on low knees and then bend over with their hands palms down on the ground above their heads. God stands behind Bad Girl and Satan is behind and to the left of them.



[8 measures] When the music begins, God creates Bad Girl. She slowly sits up from her waist, emphasizing she's becoming a creation. God forms her with hand motions, she moves both arms outwards, on low knees for 2 measures, then high knees for 2 measures. Staying on high knees, she motions her right hand out from her body a total of 4 times, on beats 1 and 3 for 2 measures. God forms her left arm next; she does the same move with her left arm for 2 measures.

[2 measures] On beat 1 of the next measure, Bad Girl opens her hands in front of her eyes (God does this as well, symbolizing giving sight) then stands to her feet (God motions with His hands, as if raising her up). God now walks backwards diagonally towards upstage right. When Bad Girl stands, she begins walking smoothly in place on the beat, admiring herself as a new creation.

[1 measure] On beat 1 of this measure, Bad Girl slams God, both arms to her right. God looks visibly hurt.

[5 measures] Immediately after slamming God, Bad Girl resumes walking smoothly in place, this time with much pride and attitude. She motions to show how vain and arrogant she is, still 'strutting' in place.

Meanwhile, during Bad Girl's creation, Satan is lurking upstage, watching, ready to make his move. After she slams God, he moves forward. In the fourth measure, he pulls a dagger with his right hand from the left side of his waist.

[8 measures]

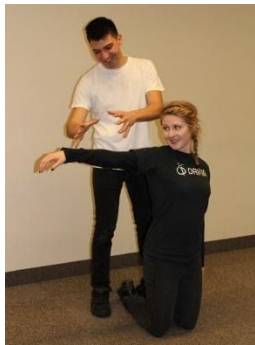
- 1: On beat 1, Satan stabs Bad Girl in the back. Her arms fling out horizontally in fists and her face shows panic.
- 2: On beat 1, Satan pushes Bad Girl over by her shoulders; she flops over at the waist like a rag doll.

- 3: Satan controls Bad Girl like a puppet. On beats 1 and 3 his right hand lifts an imaginary string connected to her right wrist, causing it to raise like a puppet's arm on a string, bending at the elbow.
- 4: Bad Girl's arm dangles, swinging slightly. Satan looks pleased, and walks to her left side.
- 5: Satan now lifts her left wrist on beats 1 and 3, identical to before.
- 6: Bad Girl's left arm dangles, swinging slightly.
- 7: Satan pulls Bad Girl's 'neck string' on beats 1 & 3.
- 8: Bad Girl's entire body flops at the waist.

As Satan is taking control of Bad Girl, God watches showing compassion & concern.

[10 measures] On beat 1, Satan pushes Bad Girl to the ground on her knees and forms a box around her. Bad Girl panics and begins to feel the box around her, forming the walls in a mime fashion, attempting to escape. (When feeling the box, Bad Girl's palms should be flat, fingers spread, feeling on a flat, even surface. Bad Girl should distribute her hands between the left, front and right walls, showing the corners of the box. She feels the walls and roof, often pounding her fists on the walls in desperation.) In measure 10, she looks around for the last time and gives up, falling to the ground in her original position on beats 3 and 4.

Meanwhile, towards the end of the chorus (box scene), God walks behind Good Girl, ready to create her.



[6 measures] God now creates Good Girl, in the same way as Bad Girl. She slowly sits up from her waist, emphasizing she's becoming a creation. God also forms her with hand motions, but Good Girl will only move both arms together and outward for 2 measures (instead of Bad Girl's 4). She spends her first measure on low knees, rising to high knees in measure 2. Staying on high knees, she motions her right hand out from her body a total of 4 times, on beats 1 and 3 for 2 measures. In measures 5 and 6, she does the same move with her left hand.

[2 measures] On beat 1 of the next measure, Good Girl opens her hands in front of her eyes (God does this as well) then stands to her feet (God motions her up with his hands.) God now walks backwards to the right. When Good Girl stands, she begins walking smoothly in place on beat, admiring herself as a new creation with amazement.

[2 measures] Good Girl turns to the right towards God and bows at the waist, hands outward and palms up in praise. She bows down for 1 measure, and then she stands up straight within the next measure. God acknowledges her, accepting her praise.

[6 measures] Good Girl turns back to face the audience and resumes walking smoothly in place, looking at herself with joyful wonder and amazement. She motions her hands

outward, in praise, etc, showing her amazement and joy. In measures 5 and 6, she walks backwards, moving upstage.

Meanwhile, Satan has watched Good Girl's creation and praise in disgust and disbelief, visibly shuddering in God's glory.

[10 measures] Good Girl performs 'In the Light' dance, in which she always steps on the beat, starting with her right foot. She also mouths the words of the chorus.

DANCE: (broken down into measures of 4)

- 1: Starting with her right foot, she walks forward on beat, hands moving outward, coming up at her sides.
- 2: She turns to the left so her back is to the audience and her hands come together and cross at wrists above head on beat 1 ("you"), then her hands break on beat 3 ("light"), ending in a "V" with fingers spread. She continues to walk on beat for beats 1, 2 & 3.
- 3: She walks forward on each beat, hands falling down to her sides shaking in 'jazz hands' motion.
- 4: Starting with her right foot, she steps to the right then turns left (counter clockwise), ending facing front, having stepped a total of 4 times. As she turns, her hands swing casually at her sides in loose fists, following her feet and the motion of the turn.
- 5: She takes two steps to the right on each beat (right foot, left foot, right foot, left foot.) Her hands and arms are the same as in the previous measure.

6: 'Combination':

[feet] Beat 1: Right toe in front and to the right.
Beat 2: Both feet together. Beat 3: Right heel out in front and to the right. Beat 4: Right foot slides back.

[arms] Beat 1: Right arm out in front; back of hand in front of face, elbow out. Beat 2: Right arm swings in front of chest towards left shoulder, palm over heart, almost touching (arm is relatively straight). Beat 3: Right arm swings back up, as if asking a question, left arm crosses chest. Beat 4: Both arms swing back behind body.



- 7: Beat 1: Right foot slides into a forward kick.
Beat 2: Right foot stomps back in place.
Beat 3: Twist at the waist left to right, heels move to the right then to the left.
Beat 4: Right heel out in front and to the right.
- 8: Praise motion to stage right.
- 9: 'Combination' from measure 6
- 10: Right heel out in front and to the right, praise motion to stage right.

Good Girl freezes in position for about 4 beats and then lowers hands to side. She looks heavenward, stage right with a joyful expression.

Meanwhile, during Good Girl's dance, God watches with joy and approval and Satan continues to show disdain. Towards the end of the dance, Satan walks back behind Bad Girl and positions himself to again take control.

[17 measures]

- 1: Satan pulls Bad Girl's right wrist up by a string on beats 1 and 3. Her elbow remains on the ground.
- 2: Satan pulls Bad Girl's left wrist on beats 1 and 3.
- 3: Satan pulls Bad Girl's right arm up; she sits up and forms a cigarette in her hand on beat 3, mimicking Satan's motion.
- 4: Satan pulls Bad Girl's left arm up and forms a cup in her hand on beat 3, so she mimics his motion.
- 5-7: Bad Girl resists smoking; Satan pushes it towards her mouth. She turns away, shaking her head.
- 8: Bad Girl smokes (see image).
- 9-11: On "honesty," Bad Girl turns to the cup in her left hand, and resists drinking. Satan forcefully guides it to her mouth. She turns away, shaking her head.
- 12: Bad Girl drinks.
- 13-14: Bad Girl takes another smoke and another drink as her resistance to Satan fades.
- 15: Bad Girl sets down the cigarette on beat 1 ("fame"), and the cup on beat 3 ("cover").
- 16: Bad Girl grabs drugs with her right hand and slides them close to the ground towards her left arm.
- 17: She injects drugs into left arm on beat 1 ("sentenced"), her entire body contracts. Still on her knees, she turns right towards God in desperation.



Meanwhile, God has been watching with great concern. When Bad Girl starts to smoke and drink, He begins to slowly walk towards her, crossing in front of Good Girl, and eventually kneels beside Bad Girl.

[4 measures] Bad Girl mouths to God, "What's going on inside of me?", with her hands outward in exasperation on beats 1 and 3. She points to herself on beat 1 of the next measure ("inside"). In measure 3, she bows in prayer with her palms together, sitting back up during the next full measure. God acknowledges her prayer and stands to free her.

[4 measures] On beat 1 (“serve”), Bad Girl puts her right hand to the right wall of the box and on beat 3 (“confirm”), she puts her left hand to the left wall, both elbows bent. God puts His hands on the box on the same beats to break it. On the other side, Satan also puts his hands on the box on the same beats to keep it intact. On the first beat (“my”) in the next measure, God breaks the box with His power in one motion and sets Bad Girl free. She pushes to make her arms straight and rises to high knees on the same beat and Satan stumbles backward from the impact. In measures 3 and 4, God reaches for Bad Girl’s right hand with His left, helps her stand, and guides her upstage, walking backwards.



Meanwhile, after the box is broken, Good Girl looks stage left and joins Bad Girl and God, taking His right hand with her left.

[10 measures] Both girls do the dance. God continues to watch with delight. Halfway through the dance, Satan pulls out his knife again and tries to attack. But God stops him and pushes him away. Satan falls to the ground and dies; he remains there for the rest of the drama.

[4 measures] After completing the dance, Good Girl walks behind Bad Girl while doing abstract hands. Bad Girl bends her knees, staying lower than Good Girl by crouching in front of her. The words of the song are still being mouthed. On beat 3 of the 2nd measure (“light”), both girls freeze with their hands framing the top and bottom of their faces; the right hand in front of the forehead, the left is right below the chin, palms out and fingers spread. Beginning on beat 1 of the 3rd measure, the girls do diagonal arms, hands in fists, by straightening their arms on the beats described below, and bringing their arms into their chest on the off-beats. Bad Girl moves her arms first, on the words “shine”, “stars”, and “heavens” (beats 1, 3 and 1). Good Girl moves her arms in the opposite diagonal on “like”, “in” and “oh” (beats 2, 4 and 2). Both girls stay frozen for the remaining beats until the next measure.

Meanwhile, at the end of the dance, God crouches behind the girls once they reach their position.



[2 measures] Both girls bow in prayer with their hands in front of them, palms together. Meanwhile, in the second measure, God stands and raises his arms towards heaven.

[2 measures] God motions with His left hand and Bad Girl spins to the left. When she reaches downstage left, she bows facing the audience with her arms down at her sides, palms up, head down, left knee up. She freezes in this position. Her spin should take 1 measure, and her bow in praise should take 1 measure.

[2 measures] God motions with His right hand and Good Girl spins to the right and bows in the same way and timing as Bad Girl, with her right knee up.

[3 measures] God motions both girls in by bringing His hands together, palms still up. The girls turn in to face Him immediately, shifting to their opposite knee and raising their hands slightly in praise. They turn and slightly raise their hands on ("all I want is to be..."). On "light" both girls bow towards God, palms up. On the same beat God looks up to heaven, standing with His feet together and raises His hands towards heaven.

All characters are frozen in their final positions as the music fades.



GLOSSARY

ABSTRACT HANDS: move hands loosely and quickly in front of face



PRAISE: extend hands out and up in front of self, palms up



HIGH KNEES: kneeling up straight, as tall as possible



SLAM: extend both arms to one side at shoulder height, away from body, palms out and face turned away



LOW KNEES: kneeling low, sitting back on one's feet