

A script from



## **“Notorious to Glorious: The Woman Caught in Adultery”**

Their sin made them notorious. The Son made them glorious.

by  
Rebecca Wimmer

- What** The Bible has some “notorious” characters who encounter the truth of Jesus and whose lives show his transforming love in all its glory.  
**Themes:** Redeemed, Sin, Repent, Grace, Forgiveness
- Who** Woman
- When** Back in the (Biblical) Day
- Wear (Props)** Costume should be a modern representation of a Biblical time. The Woman wears all white and is draped in a black sheet/tablecloth, or some other large swatch of clothing.
- Why** John 8:1-11
- How** Speaking to audience monologue. Simple. Pure.
- Time** Approximately 5 minutes

"Notorious to Glorious: The Woman Caught in Adultery"

*OPTIONAL AUDIO: An invisible crowd rumbles in the distance. We never see the crowd, but we can hear them. They are shouting. It gets closer and their shouts are more audible. You can distinguish cries of "Stone her!", "She's an adulteress, kill her!" and "the law says to stone her!". While they shout, the **Woman** wrapped in a black sheet runs down the middle aisle as though being pursued closely by the mob.*

*Over the crowd you hear the **Woman** pleading for her life saying...*

*Stumbling in as though being chased by an invisible mob.*

**Woman:** No! Please stop! Have mercy! Please! No! Stop! Help me, someone!  
Please stop! Stop! STOP!!!

*She collapses on the ground, cowering...her back turned to the audience.*

*If using audio mob on her last "STOP!!!" the shouting crowd is immediately silenced.*

*She stands and turns and faces the audience.*

You want to know if I'm that woman, right? The one that *He* saved that day?

*Long pause.*

No. I'm not that woman. But I remember that day. I remember that day and how angry those people were. The crowd that dragged her there. Their hands filled with rocks and trembling with hatred. Their shouts to kill her and stone her were chilling in my ears. There was no mercy offered and so no hope to have. Because they were right. She was an adulteress. She was a sinner. By law she deserved to die. .

*(Remembering)* And then I saw him. That man everyone was talking about. They tossed her at his feet and asked him what they should do with this woman, this adulteress who was caught in the act. They said the law commanded them to stone such women and then they waited to see what he would say. At first he said nothing. He simply bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. They kept questioning him and questioning him and then he stood up and said, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." And then he stooped down to write again. *(Looking down at the ground)* I don't know what he wrote. *(Looking up)* I can't read.

*(Remembering)* But when I looked up from where he was writing on the ground I saw this hateful, hating crowd start to leave. Drop their stones and leave one by one until only *he* was left with the woman still standing there. And I remember as he stood up, he looked into her

eyes. *(Her body cowers a little again)* And as she stood there shame swept across her body. The sweat of her adulteress embrace still on her. Hair tousled, lips red. And he asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

*She looks all around and finding no one*

"No one, sir." And then he declared, "Then neither do I condemn you."

*She speaks with a lightened voice in awe.*

Who was he? She didn't know. But somehow she knew that this man's pardon, this man's forgiveness, this man's compassionate grace freed her. And he said to her, "Go now" *(she starts to leave)* and just as she turned to go he added, "And leave your life of sin."

*Drop the black sheet at your feet revealing the woman dressed all in white. Addressing the audience.*

You want to know if I'm that woman, right? The one that *He* saved that day? *(Long pause)* No. I'm not that woman. *(Pause)* Not anymore.

You see, that woman *did* die that day. And now *this one* lives.

*Exit (leaving the black sheet behind)*