

FIRST LADY Pilot

"Uneasy Allies"

Series Logline: A Pastor's Daughter eagerly helps her father find his replacement so she can cut ties to the people in his church, but unwittingly falls for the new preacher and becomes the new First Lady.

Pilot Logline: A Pastor's Daughter gleefully helps her father find his replacement so she can cut ties to the church folk, but a new preacher convinces her father to stay and mentor him in ministry.

ACT ONE

LUCAS CANON, a recent seminary graduate, gets stranded in a airport on his way to meet a well known preacher. If things go well, he's hoping the man will agree to mentor him in ministry. While waiting for the flights to resume, he meets another gentleman and turns the wait into an impromptu church service.

Meanwhile, JAYNA PHILIPS, is less than thrilled with the latest candidate her father has found to replace him when he leaves the church for another post. She's anxious to be done with this church, but like her father, refuses to leave it in just anyone's hands. Her irritation with the church folk comes through loud and clear when BESSIE MAE TAYLOR imposes on her mother, GRACE PHILIPS, for an unnecessary meeting. Grace, who is the epitome of her name, pulls Jayna's hair to shut her up and agrees to do as Sis. Taylor asked.

Back at the airport, with the flights no longer grounded, Lucas says goodbye to his fellow worshippers and exchanges contact information with the other preachers who helped with the service. A young lady makes a blatant pass at Lucas, but he scares her away with talk of marriage.

ACT TWO

The candidate Jayna couldn't stand tags along with her and her parents to dinner flirting with her all the way. Thoroughly fed up, Jayna brutally points out all of the errors he made in his sermon causing him to storm away. Grace reprimands Jayna for her bad behavior while her father, PASTOR MILTON PHILIPS tries to smooth the man's ruffled feathers even though he agrees with Jayna.

Pastor and Jayna try to figure out where to find more candidates as she has already skewered all the ones they knew of while Grace holds her meeting downstairs. Having changed into her swimsuit for practice, Jayna practices handstands while she and her

dad talk. She constantly falls over disturbing her mother's meeting. Grace texts Pastor to ask her to stop. While Jayna does another handstand and tries to negotiate her way out of obeying her mother, Lucas arrives at the office.

Startled at Lucas' abrupt appearance, Jayna crashes to the floor. Lucas is equally disconcerted at the sight of Jayna upside down with her skirt flopped about her shoulders. Jayna recovers her wits first and thinks Lucas is there about the position. She's happy to see him for all of two seconds which is when he reveals that he wants her father to mentor him. She tries to push him out the office before her father can agree.

Pastor stops her. Seeing her dream of being free put on hold indefinitely, Jayna lights right in to Lucas with the hardest exogesis she can think of. Unfortunately, he passes with flying colors and impresses Pastor. Her father invites Lucas in to talk much to Jayna's dismay.

ACT THREE

Jayna heads off to diving practice where she ends up sucking horribly because she's still irritated Lucas got the best of her. Her dive partner, JENNY, teases her that she has a crush on him then invites her SCUBA diving so she won't kill herself off the tower.

Meanwhile, Lucas has accepted Grace and Milton's invitation to stay with them to facilitate the mentorship. While he's getting settled, he gets a call from his meddling mother, MARSHA, who is determined to marry him off to an old girlfriend. Trying to discourage her, Lucas tells her that he just met the woman he's going to marry. Struggling to come up with a name when Marsha grills him for details, he finds an old diving trophy and blurts out Jayna's name.

Horrified at what he just did, Lucas joins her parents in the living room. He's struck by the love that's still between them after 30 years of marriage and imagines the same for himself. Grace invites him in for a chat. They're just starting to get to know him when Jayna interrupts. She demands to know whose car is in her garage. She can't get to her SCUBA gear. She's perturbed to learn that Lucas is staying with her parents.

ACT FOUR

Jayna goes on the attack again, but Grace reigns her in. She apologizes. When Lucas goes to move his car, Jenny catches Jayna checking out his bare feet which is a sure sign she's into him. Jayna protests the whole time she digs out tank and regulator.

She's so busy protesting and eyeing him in the rearview mirror that she drives them into a bush when they try to leave.

Fortunately, Lucas misses the little mishap as he tries to deal with a crisis of his own. His sister, Stacey, calls to warn him that their mother is planning a surprise visit to check out this floozy he's seeing. He confides that he made the whole thing up because she's pushing the ex at him again. Since Stacey is privy to the fact the ex cheated on him, she understands and agrees to hold Marsha off as long as possible. She doesn't understand this whole religion thing he's doing, but she'll support however she can.

The following Sunday, Lucas gets his first taste of the lukewarm worship at Pastor's church. He begins to understand why Jayna is so desperate to get out. Trying to liven things up, Lucas leads an upbeat song despite the fact that he can't carry a tune in a bucket. Jayna catches on to what he's doing and takes over the lead for him. She ignores her parents' shocked expression and Lucas' grateful one.

After church, Lucas makes his membership official. As secretary, Sis. Taylor takes him to the office to give him his New Member binder. Lucas is shocked at how thick the thing is and flips through a couple pages. The more he reads, the more appalled he becomes. The binder is full of legalistic requirements the likes of which he wants nothing to do with.

ACT FIVE

Lucas questions the controlling use of the scriptures. Unaware that he's a minister, Sis. Taylor stands on her long Christian experience and reprimands him for daring to question her. Lucas is ready to call the whole thing off when Jayna interrupts their argument. When he calls her on the legalism, she's genuinely shocked. Hope buds at her reaction and he shows her the binder to see if she sees anything wrong. She sees a couple twisted scriptures even he missed and is livid.

She gets in Sis. Taylor's face and soundly reprimands her using the Bible verses correctly. The older woman gets her hackles up and storms out still convinced she's in the right. Shaking with fury, Jayna tries her best not to cry. It's no use. She nearly screams how much she hates this church as the tears flow. Lucas lets her cry on his shoulder.

Once she gets herself together, Jayna reminds Lucas that she still doesn't like him. More importantly, she can't fathom why he'd like her. She flees from the office leaving Lucas alone with the realization that he just might adore her.