

THE STORM THEATRE COMPANY

Michael Sides #1; Sister Calling My Name

SISTER ANNE: As I've told you, Lindsey has found a deep faith in God.

MICHAEL: With a little help from her friends.

SISTER ANNE: Yes. Like every person who's lost and needs to find the way home.

MICHAEL: And she's found her way?

SISTER ANNE: She's finding it. Unique as it is.

MICHAEL: Again, congratulations.

SISTER ANNE: Michael, let's not do this anymore.

MICHAEL: What? I want to find out what you've done to my sister. Isn't that your goal here? Isn't that progress?

SISTER ANNE: Not in bitterness.

MICHAEL: Take it or leave it. That's all I can manage at the moment.

SISTER ANNE: I'll take it. Maybe we are making progress.

MICHAEL: So what's going on?

SISTER ANNE: Nothing's "going on." I haven't "done" anything. Lindsey's a person in her own right. She makes her own decisions. Especially when it comes to her relationship with God.

MICHAEL: Bullshit.

SISTER ANNE: You don't know her, Michael. You haven't the slightest idea what she's capable of.

MICHAEL: Oh, yes I do.

SISTER ANNE; God is very real to her. Very close. She can feel his presence. Feel the power of his love.

MICHAEL: We're not talking about God's love.

SISTER ANNE: Yes we are. That's what this is all about.

MICHAEL: We're talking about her perceptions and how you're manipulating them.

SISTER ANNE: Oh, I see. That's certainly a popular word today.

MICHAEL: How you're using her to help you justify your own beliefs. Distorting what should be simple pity and a sense of compassion into a therapeutic nightmare that gives you the strokes at the expense of the patient. It's all so transparent. Attempting to mold these poor damaged souls into reflecting your own image of God. What you have embraced. Is this going to "heal" them? Is this going to suddenly make them whole? I stand here listening to you putting her through your religiosity in the next room, coaxing her ever further down your narrow road as she remains fixed in her madness, lost in her insanity. (laughs) What choice does she have in this? Where does free will come into play for her? She's a victim twice over.