

## Talk Show Intro

INT. Talk Show Studio - Evening

The theme song plays as a camera moves to the shows logo, before the logo fades out. The camera pans to a man sitting at a desk, then fades zooming to face him.

Host turns from his desk to face the camera

John Doe

Hello dear viewers, my name is John Doe. I'll be your host tonight on another episode of The Nowadays Show. I'll be interviewing several guests this evening, from celebrity superstar Laurie Starlight to television sensation and host of DIY TV Joan Freya. We even have an exclusive interview with a divine thought, so make sure you stay tuned! Ladies and Gentlemen I hope you're ready to experience some of the most scandalous figures ever to hit the screen...

(Screen begins to flicker as static builds)

...and to find out who they really are...

(Static sharply cuts off video/audio feed)

-Cut to Doll Ad

**DOLL AD PARODY**

INT: Play Zone – Day

At a girlie decorated birthday party, two kids unwrap their dolls. Excitement in their eyes.

BOTH GIRLS  
Wow it's the Lola dolls

SONG  
She is pretty  
She is cool  
She is Lola  
Do her makeup  
Nice and pretty  
Now she's ready to take on a city

GIRL 1  
Fuck beauty standards

GIRL 2  
Mines a street slut that uses her sexuality for power. (subject to change)

SONG  
Why stop at a city  
We'll take a country  
Make it shitty  
But just for the right wing

dolls are arranged in a government office

GIRL 1  
The GI Joes are planning to take over Lola land and force us into marriages and complete compliance

GIRL 2  
Drop the bombs. We are entering doomsday.

SONG  
So get the doll  
And have some fun

The revolution is for everyone  
She is Lola

**[FAST PACED EDITING OF CLIPS, GETTING MORE AND MORE CHAOTIC:  
BARBIE'S GETTING THEIR HAIR CUT, BARBIES STABBING EACH OTHER,  
BARBIES BEING SET ON FIRE]**

**JOAN - TALK SHOW Q&A**

Int. Talk show studio-evening

Norm introduces Joan. Joan walks in, waving to the audience. She takes a seat.

Norm

Welcome. Welcome. Very nice to have you here.  
Can you tell us a little about yourself?

Joan

I was a stay at home wife but now I am a working woman. It all started when I wrote my book "Joan Freya's Guide to an amazing party" and ever since the success of that I've been picked to start my own DIY show.

Norm

Are you doing this because you're unhappy for other reasons

Joan

Well I don't think so... I mean I did this to make myself happy. As a woman, as a housewife you got to find things to make you happy... or I mean spice life up.

Norm

*will you ever have kids?*

Joan

Well... I am not capable of having children.

Norm

*that's a shame, isn't it? Isn't that every woman's goal?*

Joan

I mean. I-

Norm

Why are you wearing black instead of pink? Don't you want to represent yourself well as a housewife?

Joan

I'm sorry? I just like bla-

Norm

Do you ever doubt your choices in life?

Joan

No. Of course not I'm very happy that I'm getting a show and it is doing what I love.

Norm

*What we love for you*

Joan

I'm sorry?

Norm

How competent are you at what you do?

Joan

How are these questions-

Norm

How do you feel about the rumors that you haven't gotten to where you are legitimately?

Joan

What rumours? There's no rumours? I worked hard for where I am. No one pulled any strings? What rumours?

Norm

How real do you think you are?

Joan

Pardon?

Norm

*How real do you think we are?*

Joan

What the fuck?

Audience (collectively)

I'm a huge fan of your work. I'm going to miss you.

## JOAN DIY SHOW

INT. Studio-Morning

Joan has visibly lost her mind, her makeup is smeared, her hair a mess. She stands behind a table with various objects and tools on the side.

Joan

I am Joan Freya. Welcome to my show! In this episode you will learn how to survive the revolution. We lost so many women to the 10 step skin care routine. Have you ever seen your friend's skin peel off from over-exfoliating? I used to not understand why women do so much for approval until the patriarchy regained power, rendering women and anyone feminine powerless. Some of my friends said they had to sleep with men because they can't say no, it's survival.

But if you take cayenne and soaked it in rubbing alcohol for three days. Then dispense it in a perfume bottle. There you have it, diy pepper spray. Here in Canada if you get caught with pepper spray they get mad at you and not the rapist. You can overcome this by saying. "Officer I was trying to make perfume. But as you can see I am a dumb woman and since a man did not help me, I made painful perfume."

I pushed my friend down the stairs because she got pregnant and found if she had the baby, her and the baby would die anyways, so she asked me to do it. The thing about the lack of safe abortion and sexual health is no matter how illegal it is, it still happens but it occurs in an unsafe manor. Have you ever seen your best friend snap in half and her brain splat. Somehow that was a better fate for her.

Since that incident I have learned a better way for at home diy reproductive health care...

Coat hanger.

Ever since the beginning of the battle for gender freedom, everytime I tried to lift my gun to shoot there was always some man trying to wrap his arms around me like he's trying to teach me how to play a game of pool. It was hard to deal with but I learned eyes, throat and dick. I fight dirty when they try to get dirty.

Have you ever seen your trans man friend suffocate mid battle from their DIY binder? That's what happens when we lose gender affirming care. The DIY binders will always claim you unless you watch the right YouTube tutorial. These days with censorship that's hard to find. You can take away our rights but you can't take our identities. And we will never stop fighting.

This is a tutorial on how to properly wrap your chesticles safely whether you are trans or pulling some sorta Mulan move in the revolution.

First you wanna get body tape, if you're really struggling to find it, duct tape is okay. You also want to have nipple covers to protect your nipples. If you don't have that, cotton pads are fine too.

First we place the nipple covers on or the cotton pads. If you're using cotton pads secure with tape first, so they don't fall off.

Next you want to grab your tape, and cut out a big oval piece like so. If your tape is not wide enough to cover your breast, you can always layer them then cut it out.

You should have a piece like this.

Finally we are going to apply it to ourselves like this. Then grab the other side and pull it towards your back. And there we have it. No more boobs.

And there you have it.

Remember sex and gender are nonbinary. It is a spectrum. and if  
you think I'm wrong, you are doubting science. Facts don't care  
about your feelings

## VINYL SEGMENT

[Clip of lava lamp, clip of record spinning, clip of stars on tapestry]

Laurie

Good evening. Today on Laurie's Vinyl Lessons, we have two fascinating case studies on a subject I can't get enough of: gender roles! Both of these albums explore what it means to be a woman within the confines of a patriarchal society, and the means of expressing oneself within tight molds.

**[Laurie puts the needle on Vinyl 1: Electra Heart - MARINA]**

Starting strong with the human singer, Marina's two-thousand and twelve sophomore album, Electra Heart. The work explores four major archetypes of womanhood through the eyes of the male gaze:

**[Image overlay of Marina tumblr photo in shopping cart]** - The eternal youth, naive but sexualized, never allowed to grow up as shown through Teen Idle.

**[Video overlay of THE ARCHETYPES]** - The beauty queen, the model, the celebrity as shown through Primadonna.

**[Video overlay of SU-BARBIE-A]** - The housewife, bored and submissive, as explored in Valley of the Dolls.

**[SU-BARBIE-A audio comes in briefly]**

**[Video overlay of How to be a Heartbreaker]** - And the homewrecker, in layman's terms, the whore, shown through How to be a Heartbreaker.

**[Back to Laurie]**

Each of these archetypes are explored through the titular Electra Heart, a character who tries to fit within each of these boxes with the goal of achieving love and happiness, and ultimately the validation of men. She sings on the penultimate

track, Valley of the Dolls, "Living with identities that do not belong to me [...] pick a personality for free / when you feel like nobody" to express that these roles are reductive and vapid.

**[Cut to clip of Laurie drawing Electra Heart heart on my cheek in the bathroom mirror. Very dramatic]**

**[Back to normal setup, but now with heart on their cheek]**

Similar themes are also explored in Halsey's album and accompanying film, *If I Can't Have Love, I Want Power*, which explores the Madonna/Whore complex: the idea that a woman is either the sacred, admirable vision of motherhood and pureness, or the sexual, provocative embodiment of lust and temptation - rather than a multi-faceted human being. Songs explore the idea of having an artistic career and being mother as being mutually exclusive, like on *You Asked For This*:

**[Pull out the lyric sheet and read from it]**

"You wished upon a fallen star / and left behind the avant garde / for lemonade in crystal glasses / picked fences, file taxes."

Also explored is the idea of clinging to either role to subvert what is expected - motherhood is rejected in favour of playing into a sexualized, male gaze in *Girl is a Gun*, and then that sexualized, male gaze role is rejected in favour of motherhood in *1121*. The point is that there is no satisfaction in one extreme or another when it's rooted in misogynistic ideas of womanhood - there exists a space for both and neither.

But misogyny seeps through the cracks even when the album is made to critique this sexualized/virginal dichotomy in the censorship of the album cover.

**[Hold up the standard cover and the Target exclusive cover]**

Despite there being no inherent sexuality on the cover, her nipple is censored in some versions of the physical album. Will

humans ever be free of this obsession with, and fear of sex?  
Who's to say..

LAURIE - TALK SHOW Q&A

**Q: What's your favorite kind of music?**

A: Any and all, but I have a soft spot for new wave [gestures down at self with hand].

**Q: Who's your favorite celebrity and why?**

A: Kate Bush. The most audacious thing you can do as a celebrity is disappear into hermitdom for decades.

**Q: Do you think we have destinies?**

A: (Laughs) I know *I* do, not so sure about you... (sizes norm up)

**Q: Do you think you'll ever reach your full potential?**

A: Darling, haven't I already?

**Q: Do you ever consider your fashion to be gauche?**

A: Yes, thank god.

**Q: Do you think you'll ever be quiet?**

A: Not as long as I have a tongue.

**Audience asks: Are you someone I should hate?**

A: Dear, in the words of Kurt Cobain, I don't care what you think as long as it's about me

**Q: Where do you find your talents come from?**

A: One time I woke up to find that a star had fallen out of the sky and melted on my chest. Since then I've never known a day of failure (winks).

**Q: Do you ever consider being less eccentric?**

A: Why on earth would I?

**Q: Why do you think you get confused?**

A: What? I don't understand..? (trailing off)

**Q: Do you ever get homesick?**

- *do you think homes are a real thing, in the end?*

- *how would you feel if you never fit in?*

A: I get homesick often, but I can't quite recall for where...

- I don't think so, it's a myth created by big Sam Mcdadi to sell more homes.

- overjoyed.

**Q: Do you think your audience loves you for who you are?**

A: [Ponders deeply for a moment, look of panic on face] I don't... I don't think so.

**Q: Do you think you'll die someday?**

A: No.

**Audience asks: Why do you annoy me?**

A: (Laughs awkwardly) I don't... I don't know?

**Audience asks: Who are you trying to impress right now?**

A: (Laughs awkwardly again, visibly insecure) The human race.

**Audience asks: How good are you at spotting camouflaged objects?**

A: Absolutely fabulous.

**Audience asks: Do you know where the fire exit is? I recommend visiting it in the breakroom when you have the time. Safety is important.**

## "A DIVINE THOUGHT" AD

Music is playing [maya note: ask for input about what music should be playing throughout the ad. I want something that aligns with a divine thought's output of niceness, but something that rather balances the juxtaposition of softness & violence. Something that also aligns with our overarching themes of gender would be ideal]

A divine thought is shining bright in an otherwise pretty dark room. Someone is facing it, seemingly screaming at the top of their lungs (still can only hear the music though).

The camera pans around, highlighting the interactions between the two subjects. It is clear that a divine thought is the primary focus, the process it undergoes is dramatized by the camerawork & its purpose becomes clear to the viewer. A divine thought's details are shown off, focusing on the refractions of light & eye-catching intricacies of the item. Overall this creates a whimsical magical time for the viewer, even though there is also someone in clear agony & despair within the same shot.

Not many details are given in the ad, mostly visual cues of what it could be. At the end, slogan "ABSORBS SCREAMS OF RAGE" appears on the screen.

**"A DIVINE THOUGHT" TALK SHOW Q&A**

**Q: Can you tell us a little about yourself?**

A: Of course. I'm... here. I exist. I'm being shaped by the emotions I am trusted with. it's a lot to describe, even with my available means of expression.

**Q: What is your line of work?**

A: I wouldn't say "work" is a suitable term for what I do. I am a self proclaimed outlet for emotional expression. I absorb peoples horrible emotions and output pretty energy, that's how I see it.

**Q: Do you ever doubt your choices in life?**

A: ...Well. Sometimes I wonder if I'll succumb to the rage myself.

**Q: Why do you feel the need to be as unusual as you are?**

A: It is the version of myself I have mustered the courage to be in agreeance with. It is who I am capable of being in this version in time.

**Q: Some people think you are not being genuine, how correct are they?**

A: Likely pretty correct. I don't reveal myself to everyone. Everyone sees me from different eyes in different contexts. Who knows what I'll be and when.

**Q: How real do you think you are?**

A: [thinking]... I am real to myself in this moment, but I don't feel particularly stable in this as a continual belief.

**Q: how real do you think we are?**

A: You exist in my current perception of things.

**Q: do you feel content with that answer?**

A: Uncertain. [its light flickers]

## DUSTY TALK SHOW Q&A

**Q: who are you?**

A: oh... uh.. I'm dusty.

**Q: can you tell us a little about yourself?**

A: I am more than I seem.

**Q: what's your favorite hobby?**

A: observing squirrels outside the window while twiddling my thumbs.

**Q: do you think you're ever a clumsy person?**

A: It's difficult when you've lost track of most of your body like I have. I don't really have much spatial awareness. I guess that comes with it. I bump into things a lot.

**Q: Who do you think loves you?**

A: [avoids the question] I think I love myself, at least the parts of myself I can feel.

**Q: Do you ever want to have a torso?**

A: It would be nice to feel whole. But then again that isn't what I think it would give me.

**Q: Do you ever regret your life choices?**

A: some have certainly led me astray, but i'll never be able to know the person i'd be without those precise choices, so i try not to think about what i would have done differently too much.

**Q: Do you ever think you should feel more shame?**

A: *shame is not really a productive emotion, is it?*

**Q: Is there a goal to being who you are?**

A:

**Q: Audience asks: Can you ride roller coasters?**

A: *i adore roller coasters. it instills such a fear in me that i can rationalize away so easily, brilliant!*

**Q: Do you think you'll ever change in a way you can't predict?**

**- do you think that change will be painful?**

A: It's likely. Change is always painful.

**Q: Do you want to be somewhere else?**

A: *there are many places i'd rather be. i wish i was on the top of a mountain breathing in the cold, fresh air. the thought really helps ground me, i meditate sometimes but not enough. the tendrils of my brain touching grass is easier.*

**Q: Do you think there is somewhere else to go?**

A: *there's always somewhere else to go when you think about it for more than a second. there is so much out there.*

**Q: Do you know if this building has any mirrors?**

**- it doesn't.**

*A: there's one right outside*

**Q: If you had to run, as fast as you could, as far as you could, away from where you are, would you do it?**

*A: of course i would. by now you know im very good at adapting for self preservation.*

**DUSTY SEGMENT**  
**Drawn Animation**

Backstage interaction?

**crew:** WHAT HAPPENED TO THE REST OF YOUR BODY ?

**dusty:** the rest of my body? oh, i lost track of it long ago. as you can see, all that remains are my head and my hands!

\*shimmies\*

i try to take care of 'em y'know?

\*shows them off further\* \*nail closeup\*

did i mention they really like attention?

**crew:** ummmm... well-

**dusty:** well?? no. i never said i was well, really. like, if you're asking me honestly i sorta have just lost awareness and connection to my body. you could say i have mastered detachment as a form of protection from external factors! im like, constantly overstimulated and masking which means i'm constantly suppressing my bodily needs because of it, so my body kinda just got sick and tired and fucked right off. sometimes when i meditate or smoke a few joints or gaze into the eyes of someone that loves me it comes back for a visit, but no chance such an unnatural environment will allow it, so don't even ask.

**crew:** ...

**dusty:** sometimes i dissociate too far and get scared and confused when i can't find the rest of me... it helps to remember all the d's, because my name also starts with d!

\*clap track\*

lets see... well dissociate is one of 'em. derealization, depersonalization... dysphoria, or is it dysmorphia? probably

both. Dysregulation... Distropitdyscotropimiphiandojsdfhdissss  
diss d desi d isd isd jsivsivdf dysscccreeeeeduuluablionia.

\*glitches out\*

[the end]

End Segment Draft - Open to adjustment

*-Cut backstage. Wide pulled back shot, audio muffled and indistinct at first. Joan is talking on the phone, slightly out of view. Divine voice & Dusty are sitting on the furniture to the left.*

JF: Right... okay, but do you know who is in charge? I checked with the stage crew and they just looked at me funny. This isn't what I was told the show would be like... I want to speak to someone. Anyone. Did you check reception? Uh huh... nothing. Alright thanks...

*Laurie walks into the room.*

JF: I'll talk to you later... Call me if you find anything.

LS: Who're you talking to?

JF: My agent... im trying to find what that interview was all about.

LS: I'm so sorry for what they did to you out there darling. That was just cruel.

DV: We're here if you want to talk about it.

JF: thank you... (joan stares off in thought for a moment) thank you, maybe later but right now I want to find out what's going on here. Who's responsible for this show anyway, I have some choice words for them.

LS: I hear you. But ever since the stage crew put the set away I haven't seen a soul in this place.

DV: I tried looking for the sound crew a but I couldn't find anyone. Not on this floor anyway.

Dusty: I checked reception. No one there either... I haven't even seen the custodial staff.

JF: I haven't seen anyone either. Wait, did you say the crew put the set away? Because, I went to the prop department to pick up some things from my old shows and I didn't see the set props there. In fact, my stuff was the only thing I found. The rest of the room was empty. Come to think of it... I don't remember storing that stuff there.

LS: Something's amiss... where the devil is everyone? Have either of you looked absolutely everywhere?

JF: Every floor the elevator would take me too.

Dusty: Wait, I'm fairly sure the writers room is located on the basement level. The elevators don't go there, you have to use the stairs.

LS: Perfect. Let's see if we can speak to someone there. I'd like to take our complaints to the source.