

LYING

by Jena Newman

(Half stage/ half classroom)

(Student on stage with solo light and FLASH picture in backgd with flag dropping down and pictures of presidents and alphabet, etc.)

Remember being young and going through a day of math, science, history and the like?

(beat)

(Close-up of girl with notepad and pen down to paper with something written)

(Inaudibly hear the professor or teacher lecturing)

(As pan down to paper to have stick figure drawing of child with crown on had and other kids saying “you’re so great”, etc.)

Remember sitting in that hard chair at that cheep desk that seemed bolted to the floor, thinking about lunch and recess instead of copying off the blackboard, and wondering “when am I ever going to use this?”

(beat)

(The person at the desk looks up and we zoom in)

Well, maybe that’s because they weren’t teaching the right subjects in school.

(beat)

(Zoom back out as she says this)

If you ask me, it would be much more beneficial to be taught

(beat)

(Zoom out to see rows of endless cubicles)

those tools that will help get you through life... because everyone needs to know....

(beat)

(See girl pulling book titled “Lying 101” out of library shelves)

how to lie.

(beat)

(Shot of inside Hogg Hall chapel or FLASH chapel recreation)

Lucky for me, I had a home supplement to school. I have often said my parents are great teachers and provide endless inspiration for me.

(beat)

(See student looking at child-like drawing of family tree)

Needless to say, I come from a long line of liars.

(beat)

(Face shot)

OK, I know what you're thinking...I am one of the lucky ones.

(beat)

(FLASH picture of Monica Lewinsky)

Some people might never know the true pleasure that comes with the art of half-truths.

(beat)

(see kid(s) reciting the "pledge of allegiance)

As such a privileged individual, it is obviously my duty to help pass along the tradition to the younger generation.

(beat)

(See child putting square cube into hole)

But this is a skill that takes practice. You have to start young to achieve any real proficiency. As soon as a child can talk, that's the ideal time to start their training.

(beat)

(Big picture becomes very teeny so person looks really small)

There is one key step that most people miss though. Often, the problem is starting with a lie that is too small.

(beat)

(See sports car zooming past)

You need to start with cars,

(beat)

(Old man with yellow teeth and black in between, and he is smiling)

fraud,

(beat)

(Extreme family tree—ie: with Jesus, Moses, you)

family lineage.

(beat)

(Picture of Nobel Prize winner) [Einstein]

Having a make-believe Nobel Prize winner in the family can always help your status in the community.

(beat)

(Evangelist experience)

Com'on people... rise to the challenge!
After all, some of the greatest people in history are liars—

(beat)

(Flash picture/video of each individual)

OJ Simpson,
Queen Elizabeth I, [Nixon?]
and Pinocchio.

(beat)

(beat)

(See close-up of face with one eyebrow lifted)

And, of course, you can't forget lying's best friend.... Cheating.

(beat)

(Clip from "Blues Brothers" movie)

So, grab the hand of your neighbor
and lift your *head to the Lord!* ,

(beat)

(Student raises hand and says line and then group behind repeats the line. As this happens, we pan slowly across the faces)

stand up at that desk, and repeat after me...

- When things get hard, I will lie
- I will remember my lies, large and small
- I will lie fearlessly, and without remorse
- I have no shortcomings that a word or phrase cannot fix
- I will strive to lie better

(beat)

(Play "G-d Save the Queen" as exit)

Because lying is my religion, my friend, and my country.