

Status Update - Part I

by Justin Street

Scripture Reference — *Jeremiah 1:5a NIV: Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. Before you were born, I set you apart.*

A sketch in two parts, for four non-gender-specific characters, and one voice over. The names used are only for reference. Actors may wish to use their own names, or could trade out for a name of their (or the director's) choosing.

CHARACTERS:

CHARLIE

JAMIE

JESSIE

SKYLER

THE VOICE

LIGHTS UP on CHARLIE, JAMIE, JESSIE, and SKYLER spread out evenly across the stage. They do not appear at first to be aware of each other.

Also, imagine that each character has a set of reaction buttons displayed in front of them, and those buttons are pressed each time they respond. Each of these words are the official names for the reaction buttons on social media. You could make large prop buttons, or simply mime pressing the buttons. Avoid directing the actors to use actual phones.

From off-stage, we hear THE VOICE

THE VOICE (VO)

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. Before your were born, I set you apart.

CHARLIE

cheerful, but tentative

Hello, world.

JAMIE, JESSIE, and SKYLER notice Charlie.

JAMIE

looks at CHARLIE, and pressing a button

Like.

JESSIE

Like.

SKYLER

Like.

This seems to put CHARLIE a little at ease, though not completely.

The characters, now aware of each other's presence, seem unsure how to continue. As though they're not sure they speak the same language.

After a beat

testing the water

Hi.

JAMIE

Like.

CHARLIE

Like.

JESSIE

Like.

SKYLER

Now JAMIE is feeling a little more at ease.

really going for it

Hey-ooooo!

JESSIE

Like.

CHARLIE

Like.

JAMIE

Love.

SKYLER

JAMIE and CHARLIE look at each other, beat, then

quickly

Love.

CHARLIE

right after

Love.

JAMIE

I just got these new shoes.

SKYLER

Love.

CHARLIE

Love.

JAMIE

Love.

JESSIE

CHARLIE
I enjoyed this very popular funny movie that just came out.

JAMIE
Haha.

JESSIE
Haha.

SKYLER
Haha.

JAMIE
I was just successful at a thing.

JESSIE
Wow.

SKYLER
Wow.

CHARLIE
Wow.

JESSIE
My cat is missing.

JAMIE
Sad.

CHARLIE.
Sad.

SKYLER
Haha.

They all look at SKYLER, who suddenly realizes and then quickly

Sad.

SKYLER
I'm really loving this popular music.

CHARLIE
Love.

JAMIE
Love.

JESSIE
cooly takes a beat, then
Like.

The others gasp.

to JESSIE SKYLER
Angry.

to SKYLER JESSIE
Haha.

to SKYLER JAMIE
Wow.

cheating out CHARLIE
Sad.

SKYLER
I'm rising above the haters.

JESSIE
Wow.

JAMIE
Like.

pause CHARLIE
Sad.

JAMIE, JESSIE, and SKYLER look at CHARLIE, confused.

CHARLIE
thinks for a second, then
Like.
shakes head
Sad.
not quite
Wow.
that's not it
Sad.
no
Angry.
nope
Sad.

JAMIE, JESSIE, and SKYLER aren't sure how to respond.

CHARLIE
frustrated, loses it

Is anyone else just, *over* this?! What are we even doing? Do I know you? Do you know me? I mean, we're interacting with each other, I *guess*, but I don't know. Who are we even doing this for?

JAMIE, JESSIE, and SKYLER, taken back, won't look at CHARLIE.

Finally, SKYLER looks up at CHARLIE, and

sheepishly SKYLER
Like?

Lights out