

# The Stars Unseen

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**The Stars Unseen** presents the idea of God as the intelligent designer in a gentle and inviting manner. The **natural** and **relatable dialogue**, combined with **quick-witted humor**, creates a balance between the lighter and more intense dramatic moments, making the story engaging and enjoyable.

The message is presented in a way that is clear, relatable, and entertaining, encouraging viewers to reflect on their own spirituality. This film has the power to shift perspectives and illuminate the science that reveals the grandeur of God's creation. By blending humor, drama, and thought-provoking themes, this project will captivate and inspire audiences from all walks of life.

## **Short Synopsis:**

A faithless journey takes an unexpected turn when a girl, delving into astronomy and guided by a new friend, encounters evidence of an eternal God. Confronting her pain, echos of her late mother's words revive a dormant passion that she once had but the tragic loss of her father forces her to question everything. What she discovers is a loving creator who knows her brokenness and pain and is faithful through it all.

**Character Profile - Mary Ward**

Age - 21

Occupation - University Student (B.S. in Astronomy)

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**Mary Ward** is an astronomy student and an atheist. Although brought up in a Christian home, She has seen too much hurt and pain to reconcile that a loving God exists.

She has an inquisitive mind that motivates her to seek out truth in the world which ultimately leads her to open up to the science that demonstrates intelligent design.

She has an abrupt pause in her spiritual journey when her father is suddenly killed creating a battle between everything she has discovered and the anger that she feels inside.

She has a hidden passion for poetry that reveals itself in the end as a tribute to the divine discovery that she experiences.

Her quick-witted sense of humor helps her connect with people.

**Key Traits - Kind, Humorous, Inquisitive, Intellectual**

CAM

Lord, what fools these mortals be.

Mary tilts her book down again to find the GUY in front of her accurately quoting a line from her book. They make eye contact and she flashes a slight smile at his witty and relevant remark.

CAM (CONT'D)

You're too obvious holding the book up like that. You're making yourself a target.

MARY

Yeah? How's that?

CAM

Your book. It's basically an open invitation for conversation, which, given your dismissive conduct, is not what you intended.

MARY

What are you talking about? Pretty sure this is a clear signal; Do not approach! No conversation allowed! Move along!

CAM

And you'd be right under most circumstances but not with Shakespeare.

Mary, now questioning her methods closes the book and takes a quick glance around at the crowd. Her curiosity builds.

MARY

And why is Shakespeare the exception?

CAM

Shakespeare, and his collection of work, is literature that the majority of high schools place prominently within their English curriculum. Freshmen are coming to college off a Shakespearean high. They have spent sleepless nights ingesting this stuff. Plays, sonnets. They see you standing in a crowd with your nose stuck in Midsummer Night's Dream. Instant ice breaker.

Mary is taken with the theory.

MARY

Alright, solid theory. What would you suggest as an appropriate alternative? Threaten them with pepper spray?

CAM smiles at the suggestion.

CAM

Not bad. A little violent.

MARY

I could recite historically horrific speeches by infamous dictators.

CAM

Better! But then you'd have to actually memorize those speeches. Which seems like a lot of time and energy just to develop a social defense mechanism.

MARY

So what then? Any brilliant suggestions short of threatening physical harm? Please share.

JESS

It takes a woman of great self-awareness and integrity to admit her mistakes... I was a little jerk. I'm sorry.

Mary smiles.

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INT. MARY'S APARTMENT

MARY

Do you know why I liked you from the start?

JESS

Because you were a social caterpillar and I was your metamorphosis?

Mary laughs.

MARY

Well there's that... You were, and are full of life and energy and always enjoying the little moments. And you care about your people... I just need you to care about what I'm going through. I've always had an agreement with myself that I am not the pinnacle of all knowledge. The percentage of me that believes that a creator doesn't exist is overshadowed by the vast possibility that he just might. I have to find the truth, whatever it might be!

MARY (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

And I need you to understand that the truth might not be what we thought it was.

Jess smiles at Mary and nods her head.

JESS

I think I'm open to that.  
(playful smile)  
I can at least tolerate it for you.

MARY

That's all I could ever ask for. To be tolerated.

Mary PULLS Jess in for a hug. The two enjoy the moment of reconciliation.

JESS

You were joking about the dress code thing, right?

Mary laughs and squeezes Jess tighter.

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EXT. OBSERVATORY - NIGHT

Mary begins to snap out of it. Tears and rage overcome her. She shakes free from their embrace.

MARY

No... No!

CAM

Mary. What happened?

Mary ignores Cam and, not sure if what is happening is real, she locks her petrified eyes on Jess.

MARY  
Jess? My dad.

Jess hears the tone in Mary's voice and understands. She pulls Mary in close.

It hits Cam and he stumbles back with wide, tear filled eyes. He begins to pray silently. Mary notices.

RAGE BOILS up in Mary. Tears fill her eyes as a wave of overwhelming betrayal and hate washes over her.

MARY (CONT'D)  
Save your damn prayers Cam! They  
are empty!  
(beat)  
Or if God is real then He must be  
deaf and blind or He doesn't give a  
shit about any of us! I can't  
believe I let you in.

Jess helps Mary in the passenger seat then jumps in the drivers side. She starts the engine and they drive off. Cam stands silent in pain and disbelief.

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EXT. CHILDHOOD HOME - NIGHT

Mary looks out across her fathers property. Soft grass and trees are lit by the stars above.

That same feeling of betrayal and rage build up again. Mary launches from the porch towards the field. She rips her mothers star necklace from her neck and hurls it as far as she can into the darkness.

MARY  
What's the point of all your stars,  
all the beauty of creation if  
you're just going to rob us of the  
things we love?  
(beat)  
What? Silence? Didn't expect that!

She falls to her knees with tears in her eyes searching the sky for something.

MARY (CONT'D)  
He was the best person on the  
planet!

That didn't warrant some kind of  
divine protection? Intervention?  
Nothing?

Mary breaks down. After a moment she collects herself.

MARY (CONT'D)  
You're a failure... You failed me.

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INT. BOOK STORE - DAY

An empty chair sits at the front. Mary quietly walks over and sits. She pulls out her question mark notebook then pauses to consider one last time if she has the courage to share.

MARY  
I am only here today because a  
friend told me to write. She told  
me it would bring clarity in the  
chaos.

Mary locks eyes with Clara at the back.

MARY (CONT'D)  
This is very, very special to me  
because it is my journey and it is  
my discovery. This poem is called,  
"Can You See?"

All eyes and ears are fixed on Mary.

MARY (CONT'D)  
"If the hallowed earth we walk  
could speak, words of unending  
adoration would fall graciously  
from it's lips."

— Mary jogs down a street tears flowing freely.

MARY (CONT'D)  
"Declarations of complexity,  
morality, and majesty bring  
finality to the fragility."

— Dr. Hall smiles at Mary's thesis paper.

— Mary and Jess in graduation robes share a best friend hand shake with smiles.

MARY (CONT'D)  
"Never captured by the bedevilment  
of deceit. Never hindered by the  
plight of villainy."

— Mary leans against her truck in a church parking lot. As Cam approaches the building he sees her and they share a moment of reconciliation.

MARY (CONT'D)

"The structure that we observe. The force that we feel, illuminates an unseen pulse that beats with the rhythm of love."

— Mary stands in front of her childhood home with a "Sold" sign in the yard. She smiles as Sherlock stands next to her.

— Cam stands on a moon lit beach watching the stars. Mary walks up and hugs him from behind. The two share a romantic moment.

MARY (CONT'D)

"With every revolution round our star's warm light. With every joyous triumph. with every tragic tear. Day breaks and offers a life of unmerited grace. Look and see the universe in melody. Look and see the systems aligned. Look and see the world in search. Can you see? God is watching."

CUT TO BLACK.