



STUDIO COVERAGE REPORT

TITLE:	<i>And the Lotus Shall Rise: My Journey Through Clergy Sex Abuse</i>
WRITTEN BY:	Susan Bisaha
GENRE:	Drama, Memoir, Survivor Narrative
SETTING:	Central New Jersey, Catholic Parish, 1970s–1980s
LOGLINE:	A vulnerable teenage girl, groomed by a charismatic priest, becomes entangled in an abusive relationship, exposing the lifelong psychological damage of clergy abuse.
SUMMARY:	<p>The story follows a young girl from a devout Catholic, but unstable household. She doesn't fit in at school but finds a sanctuary working in the rectory at church.</p> <p>At church, she meets a charismatic priest named Father Mark, who quickly becomes a central figure in her life. He gives her attention, flaunts his spiritual authority, and convinces Susan that she is chosen and special. The relationship becomes progressively more sexual, but he assures her it is God's plan.</p> <p>Susan endures years of abuse and several more years healing. But, ultimately, Susan reclaims her life and become a psychotherapist helping others heal from abuse.</p>
SUGGESTED FORMAT:	Feature film, Mid-Range Budget
COMMENTARY:	<p>This raw and intimate memoir provides a clear survivor's perspective on clergy sexual abuse and the psychological dynamics involved in grooming.</p> <p>The author's voice is reflective and candid, recounting the confusion and internalized shame navigating church, family, and authority figures.</p> <p>This story has a strong, character driven narrative, with authentic source material, and a topic that is both very intense and culturally relevant.</p>