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B'KLYN KIDS' HOMEWORK BECOMES SEX-ED FILM

By DAVID ANDREATTA

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October 11, 2004 -- Two Brooklyn teens' homework essay about sex is about to be made into a movie by a top Hollywood director to help educate other kids.

"All Falls Down," written by Chantel Woolridge, 16, and former schoolmate Fancine Kitson, is about three teenage couples whose relationships blossom and crumble. It began as an assignment for a health class at Middle College HS.

Their teacher was so impressed with the essay, which tackled sex and peer pressure, she sent it to Scenarios, a nonprofit company that produces educational films about crucial moments in sexuality.

Woolridge and Kitson's story edged out more than 300 entries to win the Scenarios USA writing contest.

"This is the way teenagers really think and talk," said budding screenwriter Woolridge. "It's not like the movies they used to show in health class."

By the time the essay was named the winner, Kitson had moved to London.

The essay earned the interest of director David Koepp, who wrote scripts for big-budget blockbusters "Spider-Man," "Jurassic Park" and "Mission Impossible."

He signed on to direct Woolridge's script for free — believing that portraying reality is the only way to get through to teens.

Scenarios estimates its films are viewed by more than 15 million people annually in health classes in 44 states, on Showtime networks and at film festivals.

Scenarios co-founder Maura Minsky says the aim is to encourage kids to make informed choices about sex.

"When kids see something written by their peers, it speaks directly to them," Minsky said. "They feel it reflects their lives. Teachers say it is a perfect way to generate conversation."

"All Falls Down" will premiere in a Manhattan theater in December.

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