

# Geralyn Lucas

## 2008 DREAMGIRL

When she was just 27, Geralyn Lucas was diagnosed with breast cancer. The year was 1995 and Lucas, a recent graduate from the Columbia University School of Journalism, was an enthusiastic new staffer at “20/20.”

Lucas, who’d recently married Dr. Tyler Lucas, actually found the lumps herself, but since the disease is more common in older women, her diagnosis stunned even her physician husband.

She soon found herself facing a mastectomy — only one day after her 28th birthday. That morning she decided to become a warrior. Her first weapon was the bright red lipstick she wore into the operating room. This led her to write *Why I Wore Lipstick to My Mastectomy*.

Lucas’ journey has connected with survivors around the world and led to an Emmy nominated movie, starring Sarah Chalke from “Scrubs” and singer Patti

Labelle, who brought Lucas’ brash and sometimes humorous take on cancer to the small screen.

Three years later, Lucas faced her toughest dilemma: whether or not to have children. Her doctor had advised against it. Then, a “20/20” assignment offered the courage she needed. It was a story about Erin Kramp, a young mother dying of breast cancer who spent her final months making a series of videos for her young daughter, Peyton. Kramp’s moving videotaped legacy for Peyton inspired Lucas not to give up on her dream of becoming a mother. In 1999, Lucas’ daughter, Skye, was born. And in 2006, she gave birth to a boy, Hayden.

Because of her personal experience, Lucas became a passionate advocate for breast cancer patients, especially young

women and she is using her platform as Look Good...Feel Better’s 2008 Dream-Girl, to share her knowledge with others who might find themselves in the same situation she was in just a few years ago. Her memoir, which has inspired countless women, and her observations of the women who participate in the Look Good...Feel Better program have made her a tireless champion, offering her support and encouragement.

“Look Good...Feel Better is such an awesome program,” Lucas declares. “Not only does it help women develop skills at just the moment in time when they really need them, but it also helps them maintain courage and confidence... or what I like to call their ‘inner cleavage’ as they battle this frightening and sometimes overwhelming disease.”

Today, Lucas works as an executive at Lifetime Television and is part of its “Stop Breast Cancer for Life” campaign. Her memoir has been translated into seven languages.

