

Children of Eden Audition Sides

SIDE 1 - Adam and Eve

EVE: Look, Adam

ADAM: Eve, you know we shouldn't go near the tree.

EVE: That's not what Father said, Adam. He said not to eat the fruit.

ADAM: I know, but...

EVE: Just watch...

(Walks very carefully towards the tree. As she does so, the STAGE GROWS DARK around her, and the fruit on the tree GLOWS with an eerie light)

ADAM: How did you do that?

EVE: I didn't do anything. I just walked towards it and the day turned into night. Look. Go on, you try!

ADAM: I don't think we...

EVE: Oh, don't be such a coward, Adam. Just try it.

(Very tentatively, ADAM takes one step towards the tree, and the DAY GROWS DARKER. A step back, and the LIGHT restores. HE moves back and forth, a step at a time, and the LIGHT changes with each step. He turns back to EVE with a worried smile on his face)

ADAM: Strange! What do you think it means?

EVE: It's a mystery to me.

ADAM: A what?

EVE: A mystery. That's a wonderful word, Adam! "Mystery"... It means there's something else beyond what we... Oh! That's another wonderful word!

ADAM: What is?

EVE: "Beyond."

(Nervously) ADAM: Eve, we've got enough words already. We've got more than we need. Now come on. I need some help.

EVE: What with?

ADAM: Finishing the bug list.

(ADAM does his best to enthuse EVE, but she merely looks back at him with a blank face)

EVE: Oh.

ADAM: I want to show it to Father tonight.

SIDE 2 - Eve and Snake

SNAKE: Exsscussse me.

EVE: (Startled) Who's that?

SNAKE: I'm sssorry. It wasn't my intention to sstartle you, but I couldn't resissst listening to your quesstions.

EVE: Snakes don't talk.

SNAKE: Ssspecial ssnakes do.

EVE: They do?

SNAKE: Snakes ask quesstions, too. Shall I ask you some?

EVE: Oh, yesss... I mean, yes.

SNAKE: What happens to the sun after it sets?

EVE: I don't know. What?

SNAKE: Here's another one. Where does music go after you've listened to it?

EVE: Where?

SNAKE: What becomes of dreams when you're not asleep?

EVE: Ooooh, you do ask the most delicious questions.

SNAKE: (Smugly) Thanksss.

EVE: Do you know the answers?

SNAKE: Oh! So you're not just interested in questions. You're interested in answers, too. You are... ambitiousss...

SIDE 3 - NOAH and FATHER

FATHER: Noah...

NOAH: Yes, Father?

FATHER: Have you finished it?

NOAH: Nearly, Father.

FATHER: It's taken long enough.

NOAH: (Slightly aggrieved) A year-and-a-half.

FATHER: We said a year.

NOAH: Yes, Father, I know. But it's been hard getting the parts. Gopher wood was scarce. (And then to himself) And it's even scarcer now! And I still haven't figured out exactly what a "cubit" is.

FATHER: Time is running short. Your sons — have you chosen wives for them?

NOAH: Shem and Ham have married, Father.

FATHER: Women from the tribe of Seth?

NOAH: Of course, Father.

FATHER: That is your salvation, Noah. You are perfect in your generations. The blood of your family was never tainted by the race of Cain.

NOAH: No, Father.

FATHER: And what of your third son? Japheth?

NOAH: Japheth...

FATHER: Have you chosen a wife for him?

NOAH: Yes, Father... Several, actually...

FATHER: He'll only need one.

NOAH: I know, Father... But he refused to marry any of them.

FATHER: (Disturbed by the idea of filial refusal) Refused?

NOAH: He's young, Father. But he's a good boy. And now he says he's found someone. FATHER: His father should choose.

NOAH: I will, of course. But I thought... if I chose his choice... if you see what I mean...? FATHER: However you do it, choose quickly. Or Japheth must go on the ark alone.

NOAH: I understand.

FATHER: Everything must be perfect.

NOAH: Yes, Father. But Father...

FATHER: Yes?

NOAH: What about the animals? Where are they going to come from? So many of them are dead now, you know.

FATHER: Finish the ark, and see what you will see.

NOAH: Riddles, always riddles.

FATHER: Finish the ark.

NOAH: Father...

(FATHER is unused to having these interviews extended and starts to become a little irritated...)

FATHER: Yes?

(... causing NOAH to hesitate slightly before continuing)

NOAH: Are you sure?

FATHER: (warningly) Noah...

SIDE 4 - YONAH and JAPHETH

JAPHETH'S VOICE (OFFSTAGE) Yonah!

YONAH: Japheth?

JAPHETH: Where do you think you're going?

YONAH: Don't try to stop me, Japheth. You know I have to leave.

JAPHETH: No. You're coming on the ark.

YONAH: I can't.

JAPHETH: Yonah, listen. I've been up on the ark, looking around. There's a little hold up near the bow, where you can hide till the rain's over. I'll bring you food and visit whenever it's safe. By the time they find you, it'll be too late.

YONAH: No, Japheth, it's wrong.

JAPHETH: Why?

YONAH: God told your father. The race of Cain must all be destroyed.

JAPHETH: (After a beat) Then God must be wrong.

YONAH: How could God be wrong?

JAPHETH: I'm not giving you up.

YONAH: You can't hide me on the ark forever. What happens when your father finds out? When God finds out?

JAPHETH: I don't care.

SIDE 5 - NOAH and MAMA

NOAH: (Quietly) Father... Father... ?

MAMA: He doesn't speak to you anymore, does he? Not since before the rain?

(NOAH looks at MAMA briefly before replying)

NOAH: No. And now I don't know what he wants. Is he asking me to sacrifice my son?

(MAMA looks back at him in silence)

But why else has he abandoned us?

MAMA: I don't know about God. He never said anything to me anyway. But if he has abandoned us, then the whole world is just this little family adrift in this big wooden boat with a lot of animals. (NOAH looks out over the waters) You must be the father now. You must be the father now.