

THE STORY OF ADAM AND EVE'S TEMPTATION

A SHORT SKIT FOR DRAMATIC READING

For Six Characters

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Story of Adam and Eve's Temptation (Genesis 3: 1-24)

List of Characters:

Narrator I
Narrator II
God
Adam
Eve
Serpent

Place: Garden of Eden

Time: Beginning of human time

Stage notes: This is meant to be a dramatic reading, with minimal acting. Each character however could wear a hat or sign or costume to depict his/her character.

Narrator I: Adam and Eve lived in the beauty of the Garden of Eden where it was never too hot, and never too cold. They ate fruit freely from the abundant trees. Animals surrounded them as friends. There was no hatred, war or bullying in the garden. It was a paradise of peace. They could do as they pleased except for one thing. God told them:

Voice of God: Enjoy yourself. Eat the bananas, the mangos, the oranges, the macadamia nuts-

Eve: Ooh! The macadamia nuts!

Voice of God: But DO NOT EAT, DO NOT EVEN TOUCH the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden — the tree I call The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

All others are yours, but not that one. Do you understand?

Adam: We understand.

Eve: We are not to touch the fruit from the tree in the center of the garden.

Narrator II: Life was wonderful for Adam and Eve until one day a serpent slithered up to Eve. The serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord had made. He said to Eve:

Serpent: Did God say, "You can't eat from ANY tree in the garden?"

Eve: Oh no, just not the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden. We can't even touch it, or we'll die.

Serpent: (laughing) You won't die. God knows that if you choose to eat from that tree you will know the difference between good and evil, and you will be just like God. How can that be bad?

Narrator I: And Eve, thinking that the fruit looked good, and would taste wonderful, and also wanting to be the smartest person around, picked the fruit and ate it.

Eve: Wow! Adam, do you want some?

Adam: You bet!

Narrator II: And instantly they knew they had done wrong. When God came into the garden they hid.

Voice of God: Adam, where are you?

Adam: I was afraid, and I hid myself from you.

Voice of God: Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you to stay away from?

Adam: (ashamed voice) Yes, I did. Eve ate it first, and I wanted some too.

Voice of God: (to Eve) What is this you have done?

Eve: It wasn't my idea. The serpent tricked me into eating it.

Narrator I: And for that they were banned from the Garden of Eden forever, and told to work hard all the rest of their lives on earth.

Narrator II: I have a question.

Narrator I: What else is new? I ought to call you Thomas, for all the questions you ask.

Narrator II: Really! Don't you think that was a little much? I mean everybody knows that if you absolutely forbid someone to do something you can almost guarantee that they'll try to do it. Right? You know, *Don 'tyou dare eat any of those just-out-of-the-oven cookies cooling on the counter or you ll be in real trouble.* And you know that you'd spend every ounce of energy trying to sneak one without letting anyone know.

Narrator I: These weren't cookies they were stealing. It was the knowledge of good and evil.

Narrator II: I know, but it said the fruit was beautiful and delicious (maybe that's why everyone thinks the fruit was an apple) and magical. Who could leave it alone?

Narrator I: I guess they should have thought about the consequences of their choice. After all, God told them they'd die if they ate it. There's no way I'd take a mouth-watering double chocolate chip pecan cookie from the cooling rack if God told me it

would kill me. It's just not worth it.

Narrator II: You've got a point there. But how do you like Adam blaming it on Eve, and Eve blaming it on the serpent?

Narrator I: Yah, they want God to think they didn't have a choice. No way! They did have a choice. They mad their choice, and then had to live with their punishment.

Narrator II: One more question.

Narrator I: Why does that not surprise me?

Narrator II: You know, that serpent was so ... what should I say ... modern. He, or she, made it sound okay to do what God said not to do. That's what's hard for me, when God says NO, but my brain can make it seem okay.

Narrator I: That's why we call this the Temptation Story - because temptation comes in all kinds of packages ...

Narrator II: not just slinky looking serpents, but sometimes temptation comes from friends who want me to cheat .,.

Narrator I: or from somewhere in ourselves when it seems easier to lie to parents or teachers than to tell the truth.

Adam: So stand up to Eve.

Eve: And stand up to your own serpents.

Voice of God: And be able to stand before me in the light of day, and do what is right.