

Peter And His Wife.

A drama for Good Friday

Characters

Peter

Peter's wife

Enter Peter looking downcast.

Peter: I can't believe it, I really can't believe it. I mean what was I thinking? What was I doing? What was I ...

Enter Wife breathless.

Wife: Peter! Peter! I've found yu at last.

Peter: What are you doing here?

Wife: What do you mean?

Peter: I mean, what are you doing here?

Wife: Well I heard that there was trouble brewing, and I heard that Jesus was caught up in it, so I came straight over. I know how upset you get when people are getting at Jesus, so I came over, to be with you.

Peter: Well you won't want to be with me when you hear what I've done.

Wife: What you've done? What do you mean? Surely nothing you've done can be that bad.

Peter: Oh yes it is, it really is. You see I disowned him. I said I didn't know him. I didn't speak up for him and now ... and now they've sent him to Pilate to get him sentenced to death. He's going to die, and it's all my fault.

Wife: Die! Him? Jesus? Die? O come off it Peter, he's had some bad scrapes before, people have wanted to kill him before, but he's too clever, too clever by half.

Peter: No it's different this time, they've handed him over to Pilate.

Wife: Pilate, huh! He'll be putty in his hands, putty. I mean no one has ever got the better of Jesus in all the three years you've known him. and that snidey, conniving Pilate is no match for him, you'll see. Come on Peter, cheer up, he'll be back with us by tea time.

Peter: But he said it was going to happen.

Wife: Said what was going to happen?

Peter: He said he was going to die

Wife: But we all say that sometimes, you know: if I don't get a drink I'm going to die, I'm dying for a meal, all that sort of thing. I'm sure he didn't mean it.

Peter: No, he said he was going to die. He said he was going to be handed over and that he was going to die.

Wife: But peter, this is Jesus you are talking about. Jesus who makes blind people see, and deaf people hear. Jesus who makes lame people dance and gives lepers smooth pink skin. Jesus who has even brought the dead back to life! Jesus has done so many wonderful things that surely everybody loves him. I mean remember just the other day when you all arrived in the city. All the singing and dancing and shouting and

Peter: But this is different, you see he said it was going to happen and in all the three years I've known him I've never known him say something and it not happen. He said it so its ... its ... its got to happen.

Wife: O Peter, it really can't be that bad. He'll find a way out you'll see, he'll..... hang on a bit, I can hear the crowd shouting, what's that they are saying? (listens).

Peter: They're shouting: Crucify him, crucify him.

Wife: But they love him, they want him to be King, they said so just the other day. Why would they want to crucify him?

Peter: I don't know, I really don't know. But he said it would happen, so it will happen and there's nothing we can do now, nothing at all. Come on, let's go.

Wife: But Peter, surely ...

Peter: Surely? That's just what he said: Surely the Son of Man will be handed over and he will be crucified, and on the third day

Wife: On the third day what?

Peter: On the third day

Wife: On the third day what!?

Peter: On the third day.... Oh I can't remember, after all I can't be expected to remember everything he said can I?

Wife: O listen to that crowd, they're going mad, completely mad. Surely there is something you can do Peter!

Peter: No, I missed my chance, I blew it, I denied him when he needed me. There is nothing I can do now. Even if he did survive this one he wouldn't want to know me any more. No it's all over, all over, come on, let's go home and get the fishing nets out again.

(They exit by the central aisle. Peter striding ahead with his wife struggling to keep up).

Wife: But Peter I don't understand. Why is this happening? What's going on?

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