

Two-By-Two
by
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Regal, Biblical music begins.

Spotlight up center.

Standing in the pool of light is NOAH. He is as you'd picture him; old and stooped, with a grey beard, long robes and a staff. An ANNOUNCER speaks over the PA.

ANNOUNCER

And so, Almighty God called upon his faithful servant, Noah, a man of wisdom and courage, deep devotion and, most importantly, love. Noah would be the one man to bravely carry out God's great command.

The lights dim. In the darkness we see the flashing of illuminated stars. The lights change so we see the image of GOD in silhouette, the stars flashing on his chest. The lights slowly come up to full to reveal God in a bright orange foam suit with brilliant blue-green attaching straps. Tiny light-bulb stars flash on the chest of the suit. He wears a strange, cubic hat on his head. He also wears a cheesy, porn star moustache and sunglasses. He chews gum. He stands on a block, hovering majestically above Noah who, upon seeing God, falls to his knees.

GOD

(Deep and commanding.)

Noah! I am the Lord your God!

NOAH

My Lord!

GOD

And it is time for you to leave this earth and join me at my right hand in my heavenly kingdom!

Noah falls prone with his face on the floor.

NOAH

My Lord, have mercy!

God breaks and starts to chuckle.

GOD

Kidding! I'm just kidding. You should see the look on your face, it's precious, really.

NOAH

(Getting up, confused.)

My Lord?

GOD
 Sorry, sorry, couldn't help myself. I know, I know, I'm a putz, but *that...that* was funny.

God chuckles a bit more and sighs, contentedly.

GOD (CONT'D)
 Ahhhh, it's great being me.

NOAH
 Is it truly you, my Lord?

GOD
 Who else?

NOAH
 It's just that...your visage is so, so...

GOD
 (Pointing to the orange suit.)
 Impressive, isn't it? I just had it made. I love the flash. It's a little tight in the tuckus.

NOAH
 It's...unexpected.

GOD
 What *did* you expect? Old man, grey beard, long robes? I got news for you, boobie, that's *you*.

He starts to rap his knuckle on the top of Noah's head.

GOD (CONT'D)
 Hello! Hello! Almighty Creator to Will Geer! Come in! Come in! Buy yourself a clue! Hello!

God chuckles again. Noah takes the head rapping in good humor.

NOAH
 What is your bidding, my Lord?

GOD
 Whoa, hold up there, Ace, let me get my bearings, here.

God takes a deep breath and looks around, smiling.

GOD (CONT'D)
 Ahhhhh, I like earth, you know? It's
 homey. I don't get back nearly enough.
 You ever see Pike's Peak?

NOAH
 My Lord--

God shushes Noah and leads him to a block.

GOD
 Shhhhhhh, sh, sh, sh. Come on, cowboy,
 relax. Take a moment. Have a seat.

They both sit. God leans back and looks about, smiling
 contentedly. There is an uncomfortable pause.

GOD (CONT'D)
 This is nice, isn't it?

NOAH
 (Very confused. Nodding.)
 Mm-hm. Very nice.

Another pause.

GOD
 Hey...want to see me shoot flames out of
 my ass?

Noah looks at God a moment.

NOAH
 Not really, no.

God pops up with renewed energy.

GOD
 Okay, back to business. Cool moss. Cool
 moss. Things to do. Things to do. So,
 Noah...

NOAH
 My Lord?

GOD
 I have a little something I'd like for
 you to do.

NOAH
 Give me your command, my Lord, and I
 shall follow.

GOD

Well, it's not so much a *command*,
really....more like a favor. Well, not a
favor. I mean it's not like you have a
choice or anything, so...but, you know,
"command" sounds so formal and rigid,
right? Kinda tight-ass. Maybe like
"sternly request"--

NOAH

What would you have me *do*, oh Lord?

Gods sits Noah back down and leans in close to him, pitching
the idea like a movie.

GOD

What would you say if I told you...I'm
destroying the earth?

NOAH

My Lord!

GOD

And I'm leaving you and your family as
the only humans left alive on the entire
planet? Impressive?

NOAH

But...but why, my Lord?

GOD

Huh?

NOAH

Why destroy the earth?

God thinks, not expecting this questing.

GOD

Well...cuz...I don't know, uh...sin!
Yeah! Yeah, sin. The world is sinful and
I'm gonna cleanse it...or something.

NOAH

But...the people of our land, we worship
every day at your altar. We give gifts of
sacrificial lambs and holy incense. We've
devoted our lives to be in your service.

GOD

(Giving in.)
Okay, okay, okay.

To tell you the truth...I'm a little bored. I need a change. It's like hanging new curtains and repainting. Plus, I need to get rid of some of the animals that didn't quite make the grade...the schmeckle bird, the double-headed dildo fish.

NOAH

Jesus Christ...

GOD

(Wagging his finger.)

Uh-uh, let's not get ahead of ourselves. Plus! Plus, I thought I'd throw this little tidbit in to sweeten the pot. I want you...are you ready? To build an ark and gather all the animals in the world, two-by-two, male and female, into it. Big time rains a-comin'.

NOAH

All of the animals?

GOD

Minus the schmeckle and the dildo fish.

NOAH

But...the world is so vast. The deserts wide and the mountains tall.

GOD

Best get-a humpin' then.

NOAH

But Lord, I am nearly six hundred years old.

GOD

Come on, in this day and age, six hundred is, like, the new three hundred. Later tater, see you with Darth Vader.

God starts to leave, stops and turns back.

GOD

Oh, yeah, a couple more things. Your son will be stricken with sleep at a moment's notice and your daughter will now be easily distracted by the most mundane of objects and events.

NOAH

But why, my Lord?

GOD
 (Thinking.)
 I don't know...huh. I *am* mysterious,
 aren't I?

God exits.

Noah sighs dejected and irritated.

NOAH
 God damnit.

There is a thunder clap as the lights fade.

NOAH
 (Looking up.)
 Sorry.

Lights up. Noah is trying to wrangle two LLAMAS who nervously twitch their heads and chew their cud.

NOAH
 (Calling, irritated.)
 Sarah! Sarah!!! Confound it, girl, get up
 here!

SARAH enters. She wears the biblical robe and slippers.

SARAH
 What is it, Fa--

She walks down stage and points, stupidly.

SARAH
 Look, poop.

NOAH
 Sarah! Leave the poop alone and come
 here!

She goes over to Noah.

SARAH
 Yes, Father?

NOAH
 I told you to get two llamas up here,
 didn't I?

SARAH
 And I did.

NOAH

Male and female! Male and female! These are both she-llamas! This does us no good. We'll be bouncing about on stormy seas while these two are bumping manna with no offspring to show for it and your not even listening, are you? You're staring at my beard like a Thessalonian retard again, aren't you?

SARAH

(Staring into his beard.)
I see bread crumbs.

NOAH

Jesus Christ...

More thunder.

NOAH

(Looking up.)
Sorry! Shem! Shem! Get up here, lad, I need you!

Shem enters, dressed in robes.

SHEM

Yes, Father.

NOAH

Get these two down below, quickly! I have to finish nailing the prow boards and I still have the keel to fit together.

Shem grabs the llama's reigns from Noah.

SHEM

You can count on me, father. Although our burdens be heavy and our time short, I shall toil amongst the--

Shem hits the floor, snoring.

NOAH

God damnit!

Thunder.

NOAH

Sorry!

Noah exits. Sarah looks offstage, pointing.

SARAH

Ooh, look, a stick.

She exits. The Llamas stand on stage, their heads twitching.
LLAMA 1 speaks in a laid back, half-stoned manner.

LLAMMA 1

Man, these humans are so bizarre, eh? I could watch 'em for hours. They're like weird, bald monkeys or something.

LLAMA 2 talks in high school upspeak.

LLAMA 2

Yesterday? At lunchtime? The old guy? He was giving me hay? In my stall? And I stepped on his foot? And he screamed like super loud...It was awesome.

Shem's legs twitch as he lays on the ground.

LLAMMA 1

Look...he's chasing bunnies.

Lights out

Lights up. The sound of stormy seas. Noah, Sarah and the Llamas are rocking back and forth as the waves crash against the ark. The all move back and forth on stage to simulate the heavy waves. Shem is sound asleep on the floor, rolling back and forth.

Noah braces himself against one side of the stage.

NOAH

Sarah! Help me batten down this window! I fear the waves will rush in and sink us lest we fail!

Sarah rocks over to Noah. She sees the window, pointing.

SARAH

Ooh, look, waves.

She rocks over to the other side of the stage, pointing.

SARAH

Ooh, look, waves.

This continues a few more times.

SARAH

Ooh, look, waves...Ooh, look,
waves...Ooh, look, waves...Ooh, look,
waves...Ooh, look, waves...Ooh, look,
waves.

NOAH

(At wit's end.)

Ah! She's as handy as a rubber crutch.
What did I do to deserve this, oh Lord?
What great sin have I committed in your
eyes to make you punish me so? Give me a
sign so that I might redeem myself in
your presence.

Sarah rocks over and clutches on to Noah. She looks numbly at his beard. She touches it.

SARAH

It's all swirly.

Noah kicks the sleeping and rolling Shem He snorts and pops up to his feet.

SHEM

Father!

NOAH

Son! I need you to stay with me, here,
boy. The seas are becoming treacherous
and I don't know if we can make it
without your help.

SHEM

Fear not, Father! Although I have been
cursed from on high with sudden leaps
into blackness, I shall overcome it. I
will stand by your side, Father. And
together we will hold back the tides that
pound our fragile--

He blacks out and flops to the floor. Sarah looks offstage and points.

SARAH

Ooh, I see an apple core.

She exits

NOAH

God damnit!

Thunder.

NOAH

Sorry! All right! This is it, Lord! You calm the seas right now, or I swear to Zebediah I'll throw everyone and everything overboard, including the Lesbian Llamas, and let us all drown at the bottom of this murky nightmare! You got it?

The seas clam and the boat stops rocking.

NOAH

That's better.

He calls offstage.

NOAH

Sarah! Sarah, bring me the dove so we can set it free out over the calm waters to find our new home.

Sarah enters with white feathers and blood around her mouth.

NOAH

(Beside himself.)

What...What did you do? You ate our only dove? The one creature that could get us off this scow and on to dry land and you ate it?!

SARAH

Tastes like warm PlayDough.

NOAH

God Damn it!

Thunder. Noah exits. Sarah follows him, staring raptly at his feet.

NOAH

Sorry!

Shem lies under the Llamas, snoring with his mouth wide open. The two Llamas look down at him a moment.

LLAMMA 1

Let's shit in his mouth.

LLAMA 2

Awesome.

Lights out.

Spotlight up on stage. Noah stands in the light.

ANNOUNCER

And soon Noah and his family touched the ark down on to dry land. He had done the bidding of his God, and was rewarded.

God steps into the light with Noah.

GOD

And he was favored among men in God's eyes throughout all eternity.

NOAH

Why did you do it? What great lesson were you trying to teach me to put me through such hardship and misery?

GOD

The lesson here...was that you are one funny guy, Paco, believe me. When you were rocking around during that storm, I had holy wine shooting out of my nose, swear to Me.

NOAH

You can be such a Dick sometimes.

God points his finger at Noah, then lowers it.

GOD

Yeah, I probably deserved that. I'm nothing if not humble.

NOAH

Right.

GOD

What say we wrap this thing up and blow this popsicle stand, eh Kemo-Sabe?

NOAH

Yes, please.

God exits. We hear God's Announcer voice over the PA.

ANNOUNCER

And so Noah dwelt in peace, with his loving family, and worshiped and loved God until his dying day. A day when he and Gandalf and Frodo and all the Elves bid goodbye to their halfling comrades and set sail from the Grey Havens across the sea to the farthest shore.

NOAH
That's "Return of the King!"

ANNOUNCER
My bad.

NOAH
God damnit.

Thunder the lights fade out.

NOAH
Sorry!!!

THE END