

Drama Ministry®

POINT. CLICK. ACTION!

THE PAWN

by JOHN COSPER

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Envious of his fellow black chess pieces, a pawn abandons his post, leaving a knight to be killed in action.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: The more elaborate you can make the chess piece costumes, the better. And the horse needs to fully commit to being a horse to make it funny.

TIME: 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2M, 2F

THEME: Playing our part; sacrifice

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 1 Corinthians 12

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Sermon starter/ illustration

CHARACTERS:

THE BLACK KNIGHT

A BLACK HORSE

A BLACK PAWN

THE WHITE QUEEN

PROPS: None

COSTUMES: Each player is dressed like a piece on a chess board

SOUND: Wireless mics if desired

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A chess board

Drama Ministry

service@DramaMinistry.com

www.DramaMinistry.com

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The Black Pawn walks on stage and stands at center. The Black Knight rides in on the back of the Horse, piggy back style. The Horse carries the Knight to just behind the Pawn.

KNIGHT: Pardon me, dear boy.

PAWN: Girl!

KNIGHT: Excuse me?

PAWN: I'm a girl! Not that that matters to you people in the back row. What do you care? I'm just a pawn, right?

KNIGHT: I am sorry about that, ma'am. I wonder if you would you let me pass? It is my move, you know.

PAWN: Oh, sure! Make way for the knight in shining armor on his mighty steed! See him jump over pawns with the greatest of ease!

KNIGHT: That's a lovely piece of rhyme. Now if you don't mind.

PAWN: Of course. Be my guest.

KNIGHT: Thank you, dear lady.

The Pawn lets the Knight and Horse pass her by. The Horse steps in front of the Pawn, then he steps stage left. Two steps forward, one sideways, just like a knight in chess.

KNIGHT: Here we are. Coiled and ready to strike.

PAWN: Yes, I bet you are. Off to save the day, win one for the king. Meanwhile us pawns are dangled out as bait, sent out into the fray as decoys and lures, expendable to the last man.

KNIGHT: Expendable?

PAWN: That's right, expendable! No one would ever send a knight or a rook into imminent danger, but no one ever thinks a thing of putting a pawn in the direct line of fire. Pawn steps into open field. Bishop takes pawn, Rook takes bishop! Sacrifice a pawn, take a bishop, all in the name of the king.

KNIGHT: What's wrong with that?

PAWN: Did anybody ask me if I wanted to be sacrificed? Did anyone give me a choice? No! They dropped me on the front line with less power than a checker piece! "One space at a time, little pawn!"