

Drama Ministry®

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VEIL OF DARKNESS

by GEORGE HALITZKA

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: Storytellers describe the greatest suffering Jesus endured on the cross: separation from His Father.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: The following can be performed in 'reader's theatre' style with the actors reading their lines, but even then, it's vital that the performers know the tone and timing of the piece in order to deliver it effectively.

TIME: 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2M or 2F

THEME: Easter, Crucifixion

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matt. 27:45-56

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Easter

SUGGESTED USE: Sermon Starter

CHARACTERS:

STORYTELLER 1

STORYTELLER 2

PROPS: None

COSTUMES: Contemporary

SOUND: Wireless microphones (optional)

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Unspecified

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VEIL OF DARKNESS *by George Halitzka*

Lights up.

STORYTELLER 1: It was thick and complete. Not a storm, not an eclipse.

STORYTELLER 2: A veil of shadows thicker and more fearsome than night enveloped Skull Hill. Wrath shattered rocks; justice shook the firmament.

STORYTELLER 1: From every soul in every village and in every nation, treachery and greed and debauchery and idolatry and deceit had been collected, drawn with irresistible force, and concentrated with crushing intensity on the dislocated shoulders of a broken human body.

STORYTELLER 2: Now a veil of blackness broke the communion of the Father and the Son, intact since eternity, a separation of holiness from the sin of the world.

STORYTELLER 1: The intimate fellowship of God and God that will never end; a marriage of essences inconceivable to limited, flesh-bound humans, was broken.

STORYTELLER 2: Purity Himself could not gaze upon filth. The veil of darkness fell between Father and Son.

Pause.

STORYTELLER 1: It is customary at Easter to discuss the process of crucifixion in great detail.

STORYTELLER 2: The thorns, the nails, the blood, the spear.

STORYTELLER 1: But the greatest suffering Jesus endured was none of the above.

STORYTELLER 2: When the Son of Man was crushed by every sin and the eternal intimacy of the Trinity was torn asunder...that was the moment when Jesus' soul screamed in agony. He cried out when the veil of darkness fell.

STORYTELLER 1: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

STORYTELLER 2: Never were truer words spoken.

STORYTELLER 1: Jesus, who had known nothing but love for all eternity . . . was abandoned by its Source when darkness fell.

..... Lights down.