

Drama Ministry®

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THE AUDITION

by Dave Tippett

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: An out-of-touch director tries to rehearse a youth play about divorce. Only through the openness of a teen actor does the reality of broken families come to light. A thought-provoking drama sure to cross the generation gap.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: This is a script that starts as a comedy with the self-absorbed director, but then shifts into drama as Amy's reading becomes real. Allow the actors to play up both sides of the sketch. Director should remain clueless throughout.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 3

TOPIC: Divorce, Relationships

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 2 Corinthians 6:18

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Youth Service, Bible Study

CHARACTERS:

Director — Adult man or woman; a caricature of an overly self-inflated director
John — A teen boy
Amy — A teen girl

PROPS: 1) Clipboard with script
2) 2 scripts
3) Stool

COSTUMES: Director should be dressed as a caricature of the overly self-inflated community theatre-type director. John and Amy should be dressed casually in clothing appropriate to contemporary teens.

SOUND: Three wireless mics

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: An empty stage, with a stool for Director

Drama Ministry

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Scene opens with DIRECTOR sitting on a stool, holding a clipboard.

DIRECTOR: Next!

AMY and JOHN enter, each holding a script.

DIRECTOR: And you are?

AMY: Uh, Amy.

JOHN: John. sir.

DIRECTOR: I see. Well, Amy and John, thank you for auditioning for this very important play of mine. You are both reading for the lead roles, so I really need to have you give it all you got. It's a play designed to help your peers here at the school deal with the "D" word. Divorce. It's super keen to the max if I do say so myself. It's cutting edge. Hard-hitting. And a bit, if I do say so myself, magical. What really strikes me about this work, my work, is its stark realism. Its gut-wrenching truthfulness. Its dark, noir stark but real dialogue. Its —

AMY: Uh, mister?

DIRECTOR: Yesssss???

AMY: Uh, I got gym class soon. Can we begin?

DIRECTOR: I've only been waiting for you two to get ready! Are you ready to read the parts? *(AMY and JOHN agree)* Okay, people, get into it now. Breathe from your stomach. *(He shows them,)* Breathe. Think about character. Think about truth. Think about realism. And ...act!

AMY: *(Reading from her script, woodenly)* Oh, there you are, Roland. My, your forehead is extra shiny today.

JOHN: *(Reading)* Oh, hello, Olivia. I am up with that. Your hair is a rather boss shade of groovy. *(Both look at DIRECTOR, disgusted with lines already. DIRECTOR looks overly pleased.)*

AMY: Say, you look rather long-faced, dude. Share with me, no?

JOHN: Well, my parents got a "D" word. Divorce. And I am really troubled in my heart and soul, don't you know. Pretend to gush and cry.

DIRECTOR: *(Hissing)* No, no, those are stage directions. Just REALLY gush and cry. Okay? And ... act!

JOHN tries to fake gushing and crying.