

AUDITION MONOLOGUES

MEN

DAVID WILKERSON

New York?! The very name is now a symbol of embarrassment! In the first place, that city is clearly not my cup of tea. I just do not like the place, Lord. I am manifestly unsuited for life there. I reveal my ignorance at every turn. It would be wrong from every point of view to leave Gwen and the children again so soon. I am not going to drive eight hours there and eight hours back for the privilege of making a fool of myself again. As for going back to the congregation with a new request for money... it's out of the question! These farmers and mine workers have already given more than they should to this inane request of mine. How would I explain it to them, when I myself do not begin to understand? How could I understand this fresh order to return to the scene of my defeat?

OLDER DAVID

There in the dark outside that little church I made an experiment in a special kind of prayer which seeks to find God's will through a sign. "Putting a fleece before the Lord" it is called, because Gideon, when he was trying to find God's will for his life, asked that a sign be made with a fleece. He placed a lamb's fleece on the ground and asked Him to send down dew everywhere but there. In the morning, the ground was soaked with dew, but Gideon's fleece was dry: God had granted him a sign.

JO-JO

Look, rich man, it's all right for you to come here to New York and talk big about God changing lives. You've got new shoes and you've got a suit of clothes that match. Look at me! I'm a bum. There are ten kids in my family. We're on relief. When there wasn't enough food to go around, they kicked me out. How's that for a story? You can take it back to all your white friends so they can feel better about themselves. That's why you came, right?

WOMEN

GWEN

I always thought marriage would help me make sense of my life. Give me a sense of security, someone to walk beside. When you left, and I was alone, my worst fears sprang to the surface. And I had to sit with them. It's your obedience I have to credit for the testing He took me through. He showed me that I had made stability an idol. When you first left I felt betrayed by both of you. Left to wonder how, after I made such an effort to honor His will, you were being taken from me when I needed you most. I found myself reaching for Him more than ever, and that's just what He wanted. I reckon He loves faith because it shows that we know His character— that He will remain faithful when everything we see with our eyes says it's counterintuitive to trust Him. His word is final. Everything else is just smoke and mirrors.

MARIA

Where do you get off breaking up my gang? They're all I've got! Coming down and trying to get the kids to a church service. You want to break us up. You think you're some kind of hero for telling us what's the matter with us? Just like a man to waltz in like he owns the place and tear my life to pieces. Everything I've worked to build. It might not look like much to a holy roller, but my gang is the only family I got left.