

Noah's Wife Looks Back

*Selected from the collection
"Monologues That Minister"*

By Venus Bardanoue

Cast: 1 w

Length: 3 pages of dialogue (1,084 words)

Performance time: About 4 minutes

The Story

As she rocks a new grandchild in her arms, Noah's wife reflects on her earlier doubts and confusion about the need for the ark that her faithful husband built and loaded with animals. Now that they have been saved from the floods, she knows her husband was right, and a rainbow reaffirms God's plans have been fulfilled.

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NOAH'S WIFE LOOKS BACK

(A monologue on our sometimes bewildered reactions to God's plans. Based on Genesis 6:5-22; 7:1-24; 8:1-22; 9:1-19; 10:2.)

Character: Noah's wife.

Setting: Bench or stool needed.

Costuming: Simple Biblical.

Stage Directions: Noah's wife carries doll completely wrapped in a blanket to represent a new baby.

MONOLOGUE

(AT RISE: NOAH'S WIFE enters, humming softly to the baby she carries. She sits and gently pats and rocks the baby to and fro as she talks.)

So now we have you, Gomer, our first little grandson. How we welcome you! And very soon you will have playmates. Both of your uncles' wives will soon have babies, too. God is really blessing us - as always. *(Looks up.)* You told us to multiply and replenish the earth, God, and *(Laughs gently.)* we are really beginning to do just that. And, not only are our sons and their wives having babies, but all the animals are having young now, too. They are moving out further and further on the earth now. *(Pause, thinking.)* It's so good to see young things again. There were no young ones on the ark - no young animals and no little grandchildren. *(Hugs baby.)*

(Remembering.) The ark! What an experience that was! From the time Noah came into the house years ago and announced he was going to build it, life was never dull. I will never forget the faces of our sons, Ham, Shem, and Japheth, when he told them that we were all going to begin gathering gopher wood and other materials and were going to build a huge boat. I must have looked as dismayed as the boys. I said, "Noah, have you lost your mind!? A boat! What in the world are you going to build a big boat for?" And our sons echoed my question.

Noah said, "Well, it does seem a bit strange, but God has told me to build an ark - a very big ark." I remember he sat down and looked at us as though he couldn't believe what he was saying either. He then told us very sorrowfully that God was going to destroy all living things on the earth, except those that would be saved in the ark. *(Walks around, patting baby and remembering.)*

Noah sat down and began to draw plans for the ark on a piece of parchment -exactly as the Lord had told him it was to be. We were all bewildered - all except Noah - about the whole idea.

God was going to destroy all the people because they were wicked! Well, that was certainly true. We had to be very careful in training our boys and finding wives for them because all the people around us were most evil.

(Holds baby up and talks to him.) You know, Baby Gomer, your grandfather might not understand all the Lord's plans, but he always obeyed his God; so he began on that huge ark.

While he and our sons were building that big old boat all those years, people would laugh at him. He always warned them they must repent and change their ways. Then God would save them, too, but they would only shriek with laughter and go on living very wicked lives.

(Sits again.) At first, my faith in that ark-building and all that plan about the animals wasn't as strong as Noah's. Many times I said to him, "Oh, Noah, this is crazy. Surely God did not tell you to build this huge thing!" But he always just smiled at me and said, "Yes, Mother, He did." And I would say, "Those animals will just eat us alive if you bring them on that boat and shut us all up together!" And he would just calmly say, "Now, Mother, God knows what He is going." But sometimes I wasn't so sure that either God or Noah knew what they were doing!

(Rather shamefully.) At first, I just stayed in the house a lot. I wasn't as bold as Noah, and all the ridicule of the people hurt. My daughters-in-law were a big comfort though, and as that monstrous boat took shape through the years, their faith and mine in Noah and God grew stronger.

End of Freeview

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