

Sunday Players

Drama Resources

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Shadows and Whispers

By Bob Rictor

Synopsis: Overwhelmed, a woman under spiritual attack desperately calls out to God.

Cast:

Woman: Very normal looking on the outside, but inside she is nursing deep emotional wounds

Shadow: At first glance, he is very pleasant and calm, but soon his true nature will be revealed. He should be dressed in darker colors, but he should look nice and normal.

Friend: A woman who is a true prayer warrior.

Props:

A park bench

Woman enters from stage right and sits quietly on the stage right end of the bench. Shadow enters from stage right, moving in behind the bench and finally placing himself next to her on the stage left end of the bench. It is critical that Woman never acknowledges Shadow. However, she reacts to everything he says. They both silently enjoy the view of the ocean for a moment.

Shadow: Beautiful, isn't it? Ah, there's nothing like the ocean... The smell of the air... The cool breeze in your face... The gentle sounds of the surf meeting the sand. It's like it's calling out to you, welcoming you. No, there's no more beautiful spot on all the earth.

(Beat)

Seems to go on forever, doesn't it? Just imagine yourself out there, floating along peaceful and quiet like... No one around to bother you... No one to hurt you.

Probably would get lonely after a while, though. You know what it's like to be lonely, don't you? You know that emptiness that slowly eats away at your soul 'til there's nothing left. Your eyes give you away. You've got dead eyes - a doll's eyes - they look human, but there's no soul behind them. You're dead inside. Took a lot to get you to that place, didn't it?

Remember your prom? Of course you do. How could you ever forget? You dreamed of that night for how long? Pink roses and perfume. And that dress, it was the most beautiful you had ever seen. Then the night came. Everyone was having the time of their lives. There was Tony Nock looking more handsome than you ever thought a person could look. Who did he dance with that night? Doesn't matter. It wasn't you. He never asked you out. While he was holding Karen Baker all snug in his arms, you were crumpled up

on your bed, your heart broken, clutching that dress like it was some teddy bear. How pathetic.

What about your marriage? Two of the happiest years of your life. Too bad you were married for eight. I've got news for you - he was cheating on you even then. He never did love you. Why should he?

(Shadow stands and assumes the mannerisms of a prosecuting attorney summing up his arguments.)

I mean, what's there to love about you? Your kids only want you around for what you can do for them. You don't really have any friends. No one cares whether you live or die.

(Shadow moves around the stage left end of the bench and crouches down on one knee so that he is speaking directly into her ear.)

Hear the ocean calling? It's calling you. The waves are welcoming you. They want you. All you have to do is walk out there and don't stop. Before you know it, you won't hurt any more. Just peace and quiet.

Woman: Oh, dear God, please help me.

Shadow: *(shoots up like he's been electrocuted)* NO! Don't call Him! He doesn't love you.

Friend: *(Enters from the same entrance as the Woman)* Hey, what are you doing out here all alone? We've missed you. Why don't you come back in and join us?

Shadow: *(He is furious at the friend for showing up. He rushes over to her trying to block her from joining the Woman, but the Friend doesn't even see that he's there. In desperation, he tries to intimidate the Friend.)* She doesn't want you here. She doesn't even like you. You're just going to look silly. Go away!

(Friend crosses in front of Woman and sits beside her. Woman, who by now has been reduced to tears, has her head down. Shadow is now stage right of the bench. Friend reaches over and touches Woman's hands.)

Friend: You're crying. Are you ok?

Shadow: Of course not, you fool. She wants to be left alone. Now go!

Woman: *(shaking her head)* No, I'm not. I don't think I've ever felt this worthless in my life.

Shadow: That's because you are!

Friend: Oh, honey, do you have any idea how much God loves you and desires you?

Shadow: No He doesn't! He hates you!

Friend: And what about your children? And your friends? Our lives wouldn't be complete without you.

Shadow: She's lying!

Friend: Could I pray for you?

Shadow: No!

Woman: Oh, please do.

Friend: Dear Jesus...

(At Jesus' name Shadow is thrown to his knees, bowing before the mere mention of the Savior's name.)

Shadow: *(he can't control what he is about to say, but he is compelled to do so)* Jesus is Lord.

Friend: I lift up my sister here who so desperately needs to feel your arms around her. Please comfort her, Lord, and allow her to experience your love. I pray that protect her from the lies that Satan is trying to use to deceive her...

(Shadow screams out)

Friend: In the precious name of Jesus...

Shadow: *(again unable to stop himself)* He is Lord!

Friend: ...we pray, Amen.

(Shadow staggers to his feet and limps out the way he came in)

Woman: Thank you. Somehow, I feel better now.

Friend: Come on, it's kind of cold out here. Let's go join the others.

Exit.