

Sunday Players

Drama Resources

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The Storm

By Melanie West

Theme: Fear in the face of an oncoming storm. Characters are Christian, but in practice one woman has difficulty believing that the promises of the Bible apply to her personally.

3 characters, all women. Lydia and Sandy are friends (Lydia is visiting from another city), and Sandy's mother (Melinda) is with them inside a house that's in the path of an approaching hurricane.

(Sandy and Lydia enter)

Sandy: Wow, today was such a great day! I'm so glad you decided to visit us, it's been such fun. Of course, it would have been even more fun if it hadn't rained so much, but that's part of the Florida experience!

Lydia: The news said this rain is the edge of a hurricane. So it seems hurricanes are part of the Florida experience, too!

Sandy: Sometimes. But this one is heading towards Savannah.

Lindy: Why don't we spend a couple of minutes praying for the people there?

Sandy: That's a wonderful idea. We'll pray for safety and peace of mind, which we know God can give even in circumstances such as these.

(they sit down and hold hands)

Lydia: Our Father in Heaven...

Melinda (runs onto the stage, afraid but not out of control): The storm has turned! It's headed straight for US now!

Sandy: Oh mom, that can't be right! They said..

Melinda (sounding strong and determined): They only said it was MOST LIKELY to hit Savannah. It turned and it's coming this way. We only have a few hours to prepare ourselves before it hits. I'll head to the store now to see if there's any bottled water and batteries left.

Sandy: Forget the store, let's get out of here NOW!

Melinda: Have you seen the traffic reports? It seems everyone else already has had that idea. I don't think we'd get too far. Besides, what do we have packed? I'll be back as quick as I can, but you may want to pray that we don't lose potable water!

(Melinda exits)

Lydia (calm, but surprised): You didn't get bottled water?

Sandy: We got some, but they tell you to get SO MUCH! We just never really expected it to come this way. We haven't boarded up the windows, either. Oh, gosh, I don't even know how much damage our insurance policy will cover! Do we have hurricane coverage? Is it too late to get it?

Lindy: Try to calm down, now. We don't really know if there's even going to BE any damage. Maybe now would be a good time to say a quick prayer before we begin our preparations. Remember how you said God could give the people in Savannah safety and peace?...

Sandy: That was different! It's coming HERE now! Lindy, don't you realize, I could lose EVERYTHING! Oh, I should have listened when they warned me about this. Why did I even move here? I'M GONNA DIE!

Lindy: Would that really be so terrible for one who believes she's going to heaven? (grabs Sandy by the shoulders and makes her sit down) Take a deep breath now. (pause) You know, my husband and I were in Mexico City in '99, when they had that frightening earthquake..

Sandy: (jumps back up) That was an earthquake, that's completely different. They're gone almost as soon as they begin.

Lindy: Yes, and people die in the process, Sandy.

Sandy: You didn't.

Lindy: (stifling a laugh) No, but we didn't know that until it was over! We had no way to get out of our building, and the swaying was terrifying. All we could do was pray, and I'll tell you the praying calmed us and we were able to accept whatever came our way. And God did grant us safety.

Sandy: Well of course YOU would pray at a time like that! You and your husband are missionaries. That's your job! This is REAL LIFE! Oh, where is my mom? Why isn't she back yet? (walks briskly over towards the doorway, then comes back towards Lindy. She zig-zags a bit around the room, as if she's looking for something but she's not sure what)

Lindy: (after pausing while Sandy paces) You know, Sandy, I could tell you one story I know of people who were calm in the middle of a storm. I'm pretty sure they were REAL people, not like us missionaries.

Sandy: So what happened? (still pacing)

Lindy: The way I heard the story, their house was completely destroyed, but the walls fell in in such a way that all the lives in the house were spared!

Sandy: That's comforting!

Lindy: (taking a deep breath) Okay, then, how about this one? I heard about some people in California whose brand new dream home was about to be surrounded by a raging wildfire. The family was out and at a safe distance, and while the fire raged ever closer to their home, and then right around it, they sang songs of praise to their Heavenly Father!

Sandy: And?

Lindy: And miraculously, their house was spared! It's actually quite a tale, to hear it all. But I think it would be a better use of our time to DO the praising God, and not just tell stories about it.

Sandy: I just realized the potted plants..

Lindy: This will be quick, and then I'll help you with the preparations. Why don't we just sing a verse of Amazing Grace?

Sandy: Okay.(still nervous)

(together) Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that saved..

Lindy: "a wretch..."

Sandy: "A wreck..."

Lindy: No, that's not right, it's 'wretch', not 'wreck'.

Sandy: Wreck! My house is going to be wrecked!

Lindy: Sandy, please calm down!

Sandy: (angrily) What do you know about losing everything you have?

Lindy: (now also angry) Quite a bit, actually! When we devoted our lives to the Lord's service, we gave Him everything! We sold our beautiful home and could only keep a few personal possessions. It was just as painful to us as the fear of it is to you now.

Sandy: Oh, I'm sorry.

Lindy: Don't be, we're not. Since we've stopped trying to hang onto things of this world, we've realized the freedom that we have, and we depend on the Lord for our needs. I can tell you that through everything, He has never disappointed us!

(silence for a few seconds)

Sandy: I'm sorry for belittling you, Lindy. I have been pretty self-absorbed. I guess I always thought you were made of something different than me.

Lindy: I'm just the same. I've just learned to live by faith. (pause, maybe even hug) Now, let's go out and take care of your potted plants. We can pray and sing while we work!

Sandy: So, how are you enjoying your vacation here so far?

(both exit)