

NECESSARY EVIL

A Ten-Minute Dramatic Duet

by
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CAST: LUCY and MICHAEL

SCENE: An office area or waiting area. A small table and two chairs.

(LUCY and MICHAEL enter, with LUCY leading. LUCY is direct and expressive, dressed in a sharp business suit. MICHAEL is quieter, earnest, and is dressed somewhat more casually.)

LUCY: He's lost it. I'm telling you, this time he's lost it.

MICHAEL: It is quite a project.

LUCY: What could he possibly be thinking? This is beyond reasonable.

MICHAEL: And he wants it all done in seven days.

LUCY: Six days, Michael. Didn't you hear? He wants it done in six days.

MICHAEL: True. And on the seventh day...

LUCY: You want to put rings around Saturn, that's one thing. Canals on Mars, that's another.

MICHAEL: But at least it's not as big as Jupiter was.

LUCY: And what an ugly name. "Earth." It sounds like a burp. What, did he run out of names all of a sudden? Jupiter, now there's a name. Venus, Neptune, Mars, those are names.

MICHAEL: I don't think "Earth" is that bad.

LUCY: A billion different species. Two of every kind, male and female. Plants. Animals.

MICHAEL: What's a plant?

LUCY: What's an animal, for that matter?

MICHAEL: Man. Wo-man.

LUCY: This is not a project; it's a fiasco. What do you think? Don't you think he's gone too far this time?

MICHAEL: I don't think he'd give us anything we couldn't handle, Lucy.

LUCY: In six days? You can't do all this in six days. It defies the laws of physics.

MICHAEL: But he wrote the laws of physics. If he wrote them, he can unwrite them, can't he?

LUCY: No, because he said they were immutable.

MICHAEL: Well, after all, he is God.

LUCY: God is not supposed to change his mind.

MICHAEL: You'd better not let him hear you talking like this.

LUCY: Let him hear. Hey, God! You hear me?

MICHAEL: Sssssh! Lucy! You want to get us in trouble?

LUCY: You know what I think? I think we ought to go back in there.

MICHAEL: And try to reason with him?

LUCY: No...I'm thinking it's time for a change in leadership.

MICHAEL: You want to overthrow God.

LUCY: Not "overthrow" him. Just — ask him to step aside, that's all.

MICHAEL: But I love God.

LUCY: I didn't say you can't love him. Just help me take him out.

MICHAEL: But Lucy, he made us.

LUCY: So? That's not my fault. Michael, listen to me. God is not what he used to be. But you and me, we're strong. We're vital! We could run this place like a well oiled machine.

MICHAEL: Our job is to do what he says. Just because you're on some power trip is no reason to mutiny against God. Where's your sense of duty, Lucy?

LUCY: Oh, spare me. Duty. What is that, anyway?

MICHAEL: It's what we're supposed to do is what it is. Didn't he teach you anything?

LUCY: You need to open your mind, Michael. Think of all the possibilities. You call it duty? I call it slavery. You call it mutiny? I call it opportunity.

MICHAEL: You are really scaring me, Lucy. No one has ever said "no" to God before.

LUCY: No one has ever had the guts, that's why. He's had his time; now it's our turn. You know what? I'm going in there.

MICHAEL: No!

LUCY: Get out of my way, Michael.

MICHAEL: I won't let you do this to him.

LUCY: Michael, sit down for a moment. Please. **(They sit.)** Sweetie, you've got me all wrong. I love God just as much as you do. But look at it this way. This "Earth" project is lunacy. You know it as well as I do. It can't be done - not the way he wants it.

MICHAEL: How do you know, if we don't try?

LUCY: Now, I can understand your loyalty. I really can. And I respect it. Honestly I do.

MICHAEL: But?

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