

Buckets by Justin Street

Level I Monologue (Age 6 - 11)

Approximate length: 3:00

CHARACTER: Shan

Gender Neutral

1 Kings Chapter (NIV) 18:30 Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down. 31 Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, "Your name shall be Israel." 32 With the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs[a] of seed. 33 He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood."

34 "Do it again," he said, and they did it again.

"Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did it the third time. 35 The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench. 36 At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. 37 Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again."

38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

SHAN enters, carrying a full bucket of water (most likely should be mimed). Tired, they set it down to take a break.

SHAN

Ugh! Why!?!?

I know that I said that I wanted to start helping out with chores and stuff - but I meant the *fun* things, like helping with the animals, and feeding the animals, and playing with the animals, and keeping an eye on the animals, and maybe sometimes cleaning up after we eat.

Oh, and sharing leftovers with the animals. You know - fun stuff! This all started because I'm the youngest, and my older brothers and sisters won't let me do anything, because I'm "usless", and "don't do anything to help the family" and that's why I "don't deserve the last piece of pita bread." So I asked Mom if I could start, you know... doing... stuff.

I didn't mean lugging buckets of water all the way up Mount Carmel, which is *really* high, by the way - but I guess that's what helping out means right now, I guess!

Mom says it's real important, but I don't see it.

"Are people that thirsty?" I asked.

"In a way", she smiled at me. Why are adults always doing that? Just tell me what you mean.

Although, if I'm being honest, I felt a little shiver when she said it. Things are *crazy* right now. All the adults are losing their minds over th big "first God who sets their altar on fire is the true god" showdown. They never tell me anything,

but from what I picked up, the prophets of Baal have failed - big time! And that old prophet, Elijah - or is it Elisha, I can never remember - is really giving it to people over worshipping Baal, who can't start a fire, because he's not real.

Which, I have to agree. It's pretty messed up. Not only has their altar not even warmed up a little, Mom says that Baal didn't deliver us from Egypt, and Baal didn't feed us in the desert, and Baal didn't give us laws to help us live in peace. Jehovah did all that.

Oops! I mean, The Lord. I know we're not supposed to say the name - but I kinda like to.

That's what Mom says, anyway. So our family believes in The Lord, which is why we're helping Elijah build an altar where he says The Lord is going to set it on fire, which is why I'm dragging a bucket of water up to Mount Carmel to throw on the altar because WHY EXACTLY!!!!

You don't throw water on something that you want to burn. Mom says that it's going to help people see. "But I thought you said they were thirsty?" I told her.

"They are." she says.

(EL sighs and picks up the bucket)

Welp. I hope something cool happens. I guess we'll see.

Exits