

# VIRTUAL DRAMA AUDITION INSTRUCTIONS

## **STEP 1: Read the “Spend Awhile on the Nile” Script**

You will want to familiarize yourself with the characters in the script to determine if there are specific roles you are interested in auditioning for.

## **STEP 2: Select a Monologue**

There are monologues for you to choose from. If you are interested in a specific role, select the recommended monologue for that character. However, if you do not have a specific role that you would like to audition for, feel free to choose any monologue you wish.

- Liza: The Show Must Go On
- Grace: Time to Go, Rufus
- Joshua: The Best Teacher in the World
- Ruthie: I Cannot Wait!
- +Joseph: Can I Have a Dog?
- +Moses: I Don't Like Chocolate
- +Pharoah: Forks

*+These roles also have singing parts, so those auditioning for these characters need to also sing “Happy Birthday” on their audition video.*

## **STEP 3: Record the Monologue**

After becoming thoroughly familiar with the monologue (memorization is a bonus), it's time to record the monologue. See the Tips on Recording Your Audition below.

## **STEP 4: Upload the Video Audition**

Complete the online form and upload the video audition at [www.tinyurl.com/smack25drama](http://www.tinyurl.com/smack25drama).

**That's it!**

***Submissions are due by May 26, 2025***

***If you have questions or problems, email [ksmith@mbcb.org](mailto:ksmith@mbcb.org)***

# TIPS ON RECORDING YOUR DRAMA AUDITION

## What Device Do I Use?

For your online video audition, please know that we will be concentrating on your audition, not the quality of the recording. We understand that not all actors will have access to high quality video and audio recording devices. If you do have a choice between devices (computer, laptop, tablet, phone, webcam, etc.), use the device that gives you the best picture and sound quality. If you don't have a choice, that's okay too. Just use what you have and don't worry.

## Setting Up

While filming your monologue, please try to place your device approximately three-four feet away and position it so that the device's camera is located at about chest height. That way, we can see you from approximately your hips to the top of your head and you don't have to focus downward as you act. Try to have a fairly simple background and wear attire that puts the focus on you (solid colors recommended). When possible, try to position a light behind your device so it gently shines toward your face.

## Where Do I Look?

When introducing yourself and your monologue, look right at the camera and talk to us like we're in the same room. Then, when performing your monologue, pretend you are speaking to someone above and just slightly to the left or right of your device's camera. We will want to see your whole face but would prefer that you are not looking right into the camera's lens.

## Test Run

Next, do a test run, maybe two. When you watch your test recording, look and listen for these things and make any adjustments before you do your submission recording:

- Listen to the sound quality. Can you be heard and understood clearly?
- Can your whole face be seen?
- If possible, are you able to film yourself from approx. your hips to the top of your head?
- Does what you are wearing and your background put the focus on you?

## Record Your Audition

Once you have everything ready to go, record your audition. Start with your introduction (greeting, your name, age, and title of your monologue). Then, take a breath and go right into your piece. When you are done, give us that gorgeous smile and say, "Thank you" and stop the recording. The performance should be recorded as if you are at a "live" audition...no editing and no stopping of the recording during the entire audition recording.

# MONOLOGUES

## LIZA | THE SHOW MUST GO ON

It was opening night, and I was standing in the wings backstage. It was 10 minutes until curtain. I don't know what triggered it. Maybe it was knowing there were hundreds of people staring at the stage. Maybe it was my director rounding up all the kids and trying to quiet them down. I don't know. I kind of blanked out. (Beat) All I remember is one of my friends trying to comfort me, but I was hysterical. She was muttering something in my ear, desperately trying to calm me down. I knew what she was saying, but it didn't really make sense to me. I don't know. I felt...overwhelmed. Panicked. (Beat) And then I heard someone call "places." I ran to the bathroom and forced myself to calm down. It was hard, yes, but I did it somehow. After all, the show must go on. I dragged myself onto the stage and the lights nearly blinded me. I looked into the wings one last time and there was my friend, smiling at me. (Beat) I smiled back. I took a deep breath and sang my first notes. (Beat) Looking back, the whole show feels like a fever dream! Quick changes, running around, trying to get to scenes on time. Intermission. I remember the curtain call and wondering why I was ever so panicked in the first place. (Beat) It was fun.

## GRACE | TIME TO GO, RUFUS

Come here, boy! Sit down on the blanket. Good boy. Are you comfy there? Did you know that you're twelve years old now? That's ... eighty-four in dog years. That's older than Gran!

Anyway, I have to tell you something. Dad told me not to say, but I'm pretty sure you won't dob me in. We're going to get in the car soon and drive to the vet. I know, I don't like that place either! But they give you a treat at the end and I get to pick a lollipop from the jar, so I guess it's not that bad.

Well, thing is, you won't be coming home with us this time. You have to stay at the vet and they're going to take care of you. You don't need to be scared, I'm pretty sure I've met all the vets and nurses and they're all really nice!

I promise it's going to be okay. You just lie down and close your eyes, and it'll be like when we've had a big playdate and go to bed early because we're so tired and can't keep our eyes open any longer. You trust me, don't you? I promise: it's going to be okay.

Oh, one more thing, Rufus: you're the bestest friend I've ever had.

## JOSHUA | THE BEST TEACHER IN THE WORLD

I'm telling you the truth. She is the best teacher in the world! She wears different colored overalls every day, and she keeps Sammy, our class hamster, in the front pocket. It's so cute! His little head pops out now and then, and she just tucks him back in there. She also wears really cool glasses. You know, the big round kind? I hope someday I need glasses because that's the kind I'm gonna get. Today, we got to write stories for the creative writing contest. Mine was about taking an elephant home from the zoo, and she said it was original and inspiring. I think that means I should become a writer when I grow up. Or a scientist because she taught us the names of all the planets, and I have already memorized all nine of them. And guess what? Next week, our class gets to have a dance party because we earned 100 marbles. I'm telling you! This is gonna be the best year of my life!

## RUTHIE | I CANNOT WAIT!

I know, I know, mom. It's time to get up. I cannot wait to go to school today. Today is my first day at St. James. I wonder what class I am in. I wonder who I will meet. I hope I will make lots of friends. I hope I will like my

teacher. What am I going to wear? Jeans? No. Too casual. Black pants with this cool shirt. No, I'll look like a waiter. I know. My favorite sweater! Does my hair look alright? I wish it was longer. I hope I can make friends easily like I did at the last school. Oh my goodness. Why am I worrying? There is nothing to be worried about. -I am sure I will have a great day! OH MY GOODNESS! I am going to be late! I'd better go to school now. Bye mom. I am going to catch the bus. I'll tell you about my day after school.

### **JOSEPH | CAN I HAVE A DOG?**

Hello Mother. Hello Father. I brought you two together for a presentation on why I should have a dog. First off, I want to thank you both for being here as you both were busy watching a movie. I have put together some reasons why I should have a dog: 1) I am a hyperactive child and I make you both tired very easily. If I get a dog, I will have someone to play with and you guys can get some quality sleep; 2) I can earn money from feeding, washing, and walking the dog; 3) This will also teach me to be responsible so that I won't forget to get the keys when we leave the house; 4) Dogs help you live longer and they will eat anything that you give them; 5) (And this will be a benefit for you) I will stop asking for a little brother. I admit that this can be a lot of responsibility, but I promise you that I will do my best. So, what do you say? Can I get a dog?

### **MOSES | I DON'T LIKE CHOCOLATE**

I don't like chocolate. There, I said it. I don't like chocolate and there is nothing you can do to make me think otherwise. What good is chocolate anyway? It only comes in like two flavors! You also can't keep it in your pocket. It'll just melt! That gooey melted-ness along with the color is just... And in case you're wondering why I would need to put chocolate in my pocket, it would obviously be so I could eat it at school! And I am no barbarian. I follow the rules of being a kid and remember to eat my candy BEFORE my food. And another thing, chocolate is poisonous to dogs! I have three dogs, so if I accidentally left chocolate just laying around then my dogs might EAT IT. (React to thought of what could happen to dogs.) Have I tried it, you ask? No, I have not. I have not, and will not, ever try chocolate. Not even if you pay me five bucks to do it. Or ten. Maybe fifteen. Fine, I will eat this chocolate bar for 20 bucks. (Eats the chocolate) That... WAS THE GREATEST THING EVER! Give me more please!

### **PHAROAH | FORKS**

As a fork, I can proudly say that we are the superior utensils. I was talking to spoon the other day and she was all braggy about how they used her for soup AND ice cream the other night. Pffft. That's nothin. I have the ability to STAB and POKE and SPEAR. Spoon said, "Oh yeah, what about stirring?" Well, I can do that too. Yesterday morning, the big lady human used me to stir cream into her coffee, and it wasn't just because all the spoons were dirty like spoon said. Knives? Well, they generally keep quiet because we all know they have anger problems. Especially the steak knives. Forks are the friendliest. Everyone knows that. Oops. Gotta run. Gonna get used again. Yum, pancakes!



# Synopsis

All aboard! Join Mr. Cruise (an overly-enthusiastic tour director) and his faithful daughter Liza on a boat trip up the Nile as they retell classic Bible stories. But there's a problem: The stories are all wrong! It takes the kids of Ocean View Church who are on board to set the record straight and help Mr. Cruise understand the real truth about God's enduring love and faithfulness to His people.

## Characters

**LIZA CRUISE:** Mr. Cruise's dramatic daughter; overdramatic

**GRACE:** Christian older girl taking the cruise

**JOSHUA:** Excited boy taking the cruise

**RUTHIE:** Younger girl who, along with Joshua and Grace, also provides the voice of reason

**Actor 1:** Plays "Joseph;" sings solos within 2 songs

**Actor 2:** Plays "Moses;" raps

**Actor 3:** Plays "Pharoah;" sings

# Spend Awhile ON THE Nile

THE MIGHTY ANCIENT HERO CRUISE



CREATED BY  
CHRISTY SEMSEN

ARRANGED BY  
DANIEL SEMSEN



34 F

might - y works with rev - er - ence; a - while on the

36 G A(no3)

Ni - i - ile. Spend some time re - dis - cov - er - ing, God's

38 F G2 N.C.

faith-ful-ness un - cov - er - ing; a - while on the Nile.

4

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system (measures 34-35) features a vocal line with a treble clef and a piano accompaniment with grand staves. A fermata is placed over the piano accompaniment in measure 35. The second system (measures 36-37) continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The third system (measures 38-39) concludes the piece with a key signature change to B-flat major. A rehearsal mark '4' is placed above measure 38. Chord symbols (F, G, A(no3), G2 N.C.) are written above the vocal line at the beginning of measures 34, 36, and 38.

LIZA: *(Ever the entertainer)* We are so glad you have chosen Nile Hero Cruises—the most popular cruise on the exciting Nile River!

MR. CRUISE: *(dramatically)* Now, if you will all sit back in your seats, keep your arms and legs inside the boat, we are ready to cast off on the adventure of a lifetime! *(all cheer)*

- LIZA: **We hope you are enjoying your Nile Cruise so far . . .**
- MR. CRUISE: *(with bravado)* **The only Nile cruise where you can purchase genuine, somewhat authentic Nile commemorative artifacts for a very reasonable price, while experiencing excellent entertainment.**
- LIZA: **Now, where are you folks from today?**
- GRACE: **We're from Ocean View Church. We're on a mission trip.**
- MR. CRUISE: *(grandly)* **A mission trip? Well, isn't that nice. *(cheesy and missing the point)* You look like you have a lot of mission!**
- RUTHIE: **Oh, well . . . uh . . .**
- LIZA: *(rolling eyes, but still missing the point)* **They're on a trip with a mission, Dad!**
- JOSHUA: **Actually, we're taking a day to sightsee and we were hoping to hear about *(accessing his pamphlet)* "The most wild and courageous heroes ever to live by the glorious and majestic Nile River." *(as he reads, Mr. Cruise mouths the words along with him; he wrote them)***
- MR. CRUISE: **Well, have YOU come to the right place! You will be entertained, dazzled, and mystified by the stories we will tell you on the Nile. You will have three options for the entertainment portion of the cruise. Liza?**
- LIZA: **That's right! You may choose between:**
- ACTOR 1: *(Performance announcer voice)* **Crazy Animal Heroes of the Nile,**
- ACTOR 3: *(Joining Actor 1 in pose)* **Nile Lifestyles of the Rich**
- ACTOR 2: *(joining in)* **and Famous!**
- LIZA: **Or . . . *(posing)* Ancient Heroes of the Nile. *(big Broadway freeze)***
- JOSHUA: *(excited)* **We'll take Ancient Heroes of the Nile, please!**
- MR. CRUISE: **An excellent choice! You have chosen the entertainment option that is in my favorite genre: *(choking up with happiness)* Show Tunes!**

KIDS: *(enthusiastically)* **Ooooh!**

*(music begins to “The Joseph Story”)*

MR. CRUISE: **Let’s begin the entertainment portion of our cruise. Now sit back, get comfortable, and enjoy “The Story of Joseph.”**

JOSHUA: **Oh, I think I know this story!**

## The Story of Joseph

Words and Music by  
**CHRISTY SEMSEN**

*Arranged by Daniel Semsen*

Classic “Broadway” feel  $\text{♩} = 123$

9

D

MR. CRUISE: “Let’s begin the . . .”

5

JOSHUA: “. . . know this story!”

A7

9

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13 *SOLO (Mr. Cruise)*  
*mf* D A

Jo - seph was a shep-herd boy;— his fa - ther loved him

16 Em

so, and he gave his son a spec-ial coat.— But his

19 A7 D

sis - ters— they knew he'd have to go.

22 JOSHUA: Sisters? MR. CRUISE: (*offhandedly*) Yes, sisters. May I continue?

25 **10** JOSHUA: Yes, sorry.*(Mr. Cruise continues)*  
*mf* D

God gave Jo - seph

B

dreams that one day would come true.

G E G# D A B Em A7

Jo - seph want-ed to fol-low God\_ and asked Him what to

34 **11** D LIZA & MR. CRUISE: *(dramatically/comically)* One night, Joseph had a dream:

do.



37 D SOLO (Joseph) Em

We all had bun - dles of grain, my

40 Am D Eb

sis - ters and me, when all of a sud - den,

43 D Eb D Cmaj7 E/B E#A G N.C.

mine rose up, and yours all bowed to me!

JOSEPH: "Sorry!"...  
(Sisters pout, with arms crossed)

JOSEPH: (shrugs, playful) Sorry!

JOSHUA: Excuse me! I'm pretty sure Joseph in the Bible had *brothers*.

MR. CRUISE: (comically condescending) Oh, I'm PRETTY sure it was **sisters**.

LIZA: (reassuring him) **Absolutely!**

JOSHUA: **I don't THINK so . . .**

RUTHIE: **It's right here in Genesis. Chapter 37, verse 5: "Joseph had**



**Suddenly Faster**  $\text{♩} = 133$   
(Mr. Cruise only sings top notes)

178 *ff*  $\text{E}^\flat$  C7  $\text{A}^\flat$   $\frac{\text{F}}{\text{A}}$

seph (CHOIR sings full-size notes) pay!

*ff* Suddenly faster

181 N.C.  $\text{E}^\flat$

*f* *ff*

JOSHUA: Wait! What? That's not how the story ends!

MR. CRUISE: Huh! No applause? Tough boat . . . Now, young man, I think I know how the hero story ends . . .

RUTHIE: He's right! What about the rest of the story? The brothers aren't the heroes!

BROTHERS: (brothers look shocked) Gasp!

GRACE: Do you mind if we take it from here? Come here, Joseph, brothers. (Whispering instructions as little kid puts on a Pharaoh headdress) Here's what happens . . .

MR. CRUISE: Oh, sure. Now *everyone's* a performer . . .

(music begins to "The Joseph Story [Part II]")

10 E F E D6 G C# G# B A N.C. *f*

got - ten him, had not for - got - ten him.

GRACE: "This time it..."

13 E *sub. mp* (sim.)

16

19

GRACE: This time it was the Pharaoh who had a dream he didn't understand. And God helped Joseph to understand the meaning of the dream.

RUTHIE: There was going to be a great famine, and Egypt would need to save lots and lots of food. Then Pharaoh said to Joseph...

LITTLE KID: (in Pharaoh headdress and Pharaoh voice) "Since God has made all this known to you, I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt."

70 C Gm

E - gypt to be saved, not rec - og - niz - ing

73 C

Jo - seph, whom they'd sold to be, sold to be a

76 F

GRACE: "But wait! . . . Could it be?"

23

Mysterioso  $\text{♩} = 125$  ( $\text{♩} = \text{♩.}$ )  
Dmaj7

slave.

*f* *legato p*

GRACE: But wait! The Egyptian looked familiar. Could it be?

RUTHIE: (music resumes at m. 78) Once the brothers realized that the Egyptian was actually their brother, Joseph, they were terrified! But Joseph said . . .

## JOSHUA: "Joseph said to . . ."

148 Dmaj7

*p*

152 Bm9

*mf*

156 Dmaj7

*p*

159 Bm9

*mf*

" . . . here, but God."

162 D

*p*

JOSHUA: (in playoff music) Joseph said to his brothers,

JOSEPH: "Do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. It was not *you* who sent me here, but God." (music ends)

MR. CRUISE: (clearing throat) Uh, very nice. I guess that works, too. So . . . I guess I could not interest you in some "Hero Sisters of Joseph" key chains or posters? No? Okay. (Changing the subject) Liza,

why don't you introduce the next act?

LIZA:

**With pleasure! Our next hero was raised in Egypt in the house of the Pharaoh, so he obviously was raised to be a hero from birth. We present, (with a flourish) the story of Moses! (She backs away dramatically while Sisters take positions as "the bush" with pom-poms. During song, Mr. Cruise can alternately "direct" the singing, then snap to the beat, very pleased with his show.)**

(music begins to "I Am the Lord")

## I Am the Lord

Words and Music by  
**CHRISTY SEMSEN**

Arranged by Daniel Semsen

28

Pop rock feel ♩ = 134

Dm

4

SOLO (Liza) *mf*

6

Gm

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41

MR. CRUISE: *“Wonderful story, Liza, Moses, bush!”* //

*(Sisters bring out and shake pom-poms in front of themselves to create a burning bush)*

MOSES: *(m. 39)* **Wow! A talking bush? Have you ever thought about going into showbiz? Let's go!** *(Bush and Moses walk offstage to side of boat)*

MR. CRUISE: *(clapping)* **Wonderful story, Liza, Moses, Bush!** *(Bush, Liza and Moses join hands and bow with a flourish) (music stops at m. 43.)*  
**What a team Moses and that bush turned out to be!**

GRACE: **Liza?** *(whispering)* **Uhm, that's not what happened.**

LIZA: **Sure it is. Right? Right?** *(realizing her Dad taught her the wrong ending)* **Dad!**

MR. CRUISE: **Well, honey, I did change the story a bit. But it's more exciting this way: Moses and the bush take a world tour performing . . .**  
*(Mr. Cruise does some comic Broadway move)* **show tunes!**

*(music resumes at m. 44)*

JOSHUA: **Again with the show tunes? Uh, that never happened.**

MR. CRUISE: **I suppose you would like to tell us YOUR version . . .**

RUTHIE: **Well, here's what the *Bible* says:** *(Bush and Moses scramble back to position and Ruthie whispers in Moses' ear during next choir part)*



64 B $\flat$  N.C. Dm **32**

from Phar - aoh's\_ hand."

66 *SOLO (Moses)*  
*mf* N.C. **33**

Here I am, but I

68 (to audience) Does it seem to anyone else like this

think I need to lie down.

70 bush is talking? (*Bush shakes*) *CHOIR mf* A

"Take off your san - dals, take

78 *SOLO (Moses)*

What if they don't lis - ten? What if

*(CHOIR)*

from Phar - aoh's\_ hand."

B $\flat$  Dm N.C.

80 **35**

they don't care? I am just a com - mon man. What if

82 B $\flat$ m *RUTHIE: "Moses was actually..."*

they just stare?\_

*Drum fill* *mf much more flowing*

RUTHIE:

**Moses was actually really scared of what God was asking him to do. He didn't want to go tell Pharaoh to let God's people go, but God reminded him of something really important! (lighting change, as kids are now singing the Words of God)**

MR. CRUISE: *(hiding a poster of Moses and the bush on tour)* **Just let me put something away . . .**

GRACE: **Is that a poster of Moses and a bush, wearing top hats?**

MR. CRUISE: **Never mind that. You are all turning out to be a very difficult audience.**

RUTHIE: **But we're having a great time! Do you have another hero story?**

MR. CRUISE: *(pouting)* **I don't want to tell you.**

KIDS: *(convincing)* **Please, come on! Tell us another!**

MR. CRUISE: **Well, will you promise to let me tell the WHOLE story? Without interrupting?**

RUTHIE: **We promise! We won't say a word.**

MR. CRUISE: *(snapping for Actor 3 to come to front as Pharaoh, Ensemble girls form blues band around him, pretending to play bass and guitar)*  
**Places, everyone! I present, The Story of Pharaoh and the Plagues . . .**

*(music begins to "Poor, Poor Pharaoh"\*)*

PHARAOH: **This is a song dedicated to my slaves, the Israelites. They've been with me for a long time, and I . . . well, no matter how much they get on my nerves, I just can't let 'em go.**

*\*(During song, Mr. Cruise may take turns comically pantomiming playing instruments with the sisters—he loves the blues.)*

29 (SOLO)  
G

can - not be - lieve\_\_ all the tri - als I've been through:\_\_ too

31 Dm D D F# G G#dim

man - y to men - tion.\_\_ PHARAOH: Just remembering But I makes me blue.

33 G E7 G#

need to for - give,\_\_ I need to stay strong,\_\_ though my

35 41 A7 ff

pa - tience is thin;\_\_ they've been with me for so long!

56 B $\flat$ 7 A7

Poor, poor Phar - aoh; \_\_\_

58 A $\flat$ 7 N.C. E $\flat$

a real-ly bad, bad \_\_\_ day. \_\_\_

*Drum fill*

60 B $\flat$ 7 E $\flat$ m

PHARAOH: Wait! Slaves! Where are you

62

going? Why do you have suitcases? Please, don't leave!

64 **We can work this out!** B $\flat$ 7 B $\flat$ 7 A7

Poor, poor Phar - aoh;\_\_\_\_

66 **PHARAOH: I'll miss you! Promise me you'll** A $\flat$ 7 N.C. E $\flat$

a real-ly bad, bad\_\_\_\_ day.\_\_\_\_

*Drum fill*

**at least write! (to audience) It's been a very bad day.** B $\flat$ 7 A $\flat$ 7 E $\flat$ 9

68

at least write! (to audience) It's been a very bad day.

MR. CRUISE: *(dramatically)* **And . . . Scene! Well?** (43) *soundtrack crickets chirping while kids stare at him awkwardly* *(Confidently)* **Tell me you didn't like the Pharaoh hero story.**

RUTHIE: *(not wanting to hurt his feelings)* **Well . . . it was very entertaining . . .**

GRACE: *(hesitantly)* **But, you know, the Bible says that Pharaoh's heart was hardened and no matter what God did, Pharaoh refused to let God's people go.**

MR. CRUISE: **That's what I said!** *(his crew agrees.)*

*(That's what he said. That's what I heard! etc.)*

JOSHUA: **Pharaoh wasn't a hero; he was a bad guy! He and his army chased the Israelites and tried to kill them!**

MR. CRUISE: *(comically emotional)* **Now that's it! You all have been a very poor audience and I need some time to center** *(some acting funny phrase, pouting)* **I'm docking this boat, and leaving.** *(He steers over to the dock, collects his things and walks out)*

LIZA: **Wait, Dad, don't leave! You're the only one that can drive the boat!**

MR. CRUISE: *(as he is leaving)* **Well, maybe you will appreciate me more when I am gone. The show is cancelled!**

*(Kids react. Oh no! Please don't leave! That's too bad, etc.)*

LIZA: *(freaking out; talking to herself)* **Must stay in control! The show must go on! The show must go on!** *(pause)* **Awh, who am I kidding? We've been trying to stay in business for so long, but without our hero stories, I'm afraid we won't have any customers. It's over.**

GRACE: **Well, we could tell *you* some stories. And they're true!**

LIZA: *(skeptical)* **Are they *hero* stories?**

GRACE: **Well, really, in all the stories, God is actually the hero, but He uses ordinary people like you and me.**

JOSHUA: **Remember Moses? Well, he was chosen to demonstrate God's mighty power to the Pharaoh, and to God's people, by leading**

**them out of Egypt.**

**RUTHIE: And God used Joseph to save His people from a great famine!**

**LIZA: We already told those stories.**

**RUTHIE: That's right, but did you know that hundreds of years before that, God made a promise to someone else named Abraham? God said,**

**KID A: "I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous**  
*(music begins to "I Will Bless You")* **as the stars in the sky and**  
**as the sand on the seashore . . . and through your offspring, all**  
**nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."**  
**Genesis 22:17-18**

*(During song, optional addition of little ones/preschool, kindergarten  
or 1st graders wearing sparkly star costumes and dancing)*



KID B: (m. 49) “This is My covenant with you: you will be the father of many nations . . . I will make you very fruitful . . . and kings will come from you.” Genesis 17: verses 4 and 6.

KID C: “I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you . . . to be your God and the God of your descendants . . . I will be their God.” Genesis 17: 7 and 8.

55 C#m B(add4) KID C: “I will establish . . .” E

God.

58 C#m

61 Cmaj7 Bm

47

“... Genesis 17: 7 and 8.”

LIZA:                    **This may be obvious, but, God’s people were Pharaoh’s slaves in Egypt, right?**

GRACE/JOSHUA,  
RUTHIE:            **Right!**

LIZA:                    **Well, that doesn’t seem like God was blessing them and showing people He was their God.**

GRACE:                **Well, that’s what the people thought for a while, too!**

JOSHUA:               **Even though God made a covenant with the Israelites through Abraham, the people forgot about it when things got difficult.**

RUTHIE:               **And when Moses told them God wanted to rescue them from Pharaoh, they didn’t believe him, because they thought God had forgotten.**

JOSHUA:               **But once God delivered them from Egypt by walking them through the Red Sea, they had a huge party! And we mean a HUGE party! Miriam, Moses’ sister, led the people in a song of praise to God that must have been heard for miles.**

ALL:                    *(with energy)* Exodus 15:1 and 2, **“I will sing to the Lord, for He is highly exalted . . . The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. He is my God and I will praise Him.”** *(all cheer)*

*(music begins to “Who is Like the Lord”)*

- JOSHUA: *(As Mr. Cruise walks in resolutely)* **Look! It's Mr. Cruise!**
- MR. CRUISE: *(hanging his head)* **Hello, loyal passengers, audience. I owe you an apology. I have been a shameful captain, and worse—an unprofessional student of the theater. There are no small parts, only small actors.**
- RUTHIE: **No worries! We forgive you!**
- MR. CRUISE: **You do?**
- ALL: *(agreeing)* **Sure. Yeah. Totally.**
- LIZA: *(excitedly)* **Dad, the kids have been teaching me some new hero stories, and they're true!**
- MR. CRUISE: *(shaking his head)* **Liza, I learned these stories when I was little, too. But at some time you have to grow up and stop believing in fairy tales.**
- RUTHIE: **But these aren't just stories, Mr. Cruise!**
- MR. CRUISE: **Well, even if they *did* happen, those stories don't have any relevance today!**
- GRACE: **Sure they do! Throughout the Bible, there is a thread of God's love and faithfulness to His people, even when they ran away from Him.**
- RUTHIE: **. . . or didn't understand what was going on.**
- JOSHUA: **Even when they forgot the great things God had *just* done for them.**
- MR. CRUISE: **What does that have to do with us?**
- (music begins to "You Never Let Go")*
- JOSHUA: **We may not be Israelites, but we *are* God's people.**
- MR. CRUISE: **What do you mean?**
- RUTHIE: **When God sent Jesus down to earth so many years ago, He gave us the chance to really become His children.**
- LIZA: **I'm not sure I understand.**

GRACE: **Maybe we can talk more about it.**

*(Mr. Cruise, Grace and Liza go sit on side of stage. During song, they bow and pray)*

## You Never Let Go

Words and Music by  
**MATT REDMAN**  
and **BETH REDMAN**

*Arranged by Daniel Semsén*

Moderately ♩ = 80

*JOSHUA: "We may not be . . ."*

54 N.C. E $\flat$  F Gm9

*GRACE: "... more about it."*

3 E $\flat$  F Gm7 E $\flat$  F Gm7

6 F $\sharp$ sus E $\flat$ 2 *SOLO 1 mp*

E - ven though I

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ALL KIDS:

**God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the  
mountains fall into the heart of the sea. Psalm 46:1 and 2.**

*(During verse, Mr. Cruise has been walking to center)*

35 Gm7 Bb

57

*"... Psalm 46:1 and 2."*

Gm7

*SOLO (Mr. Cruise)*

*mf*

38

And I will fear no

41 Eb F Gm7 Gm7 F A Bb

e - vil, for my God is with me.

68

C $\flat$

G $\flat$ 2

Lord, You nev - er let go of me.

**MR. CRUISE:** **Liza, crew, we will have to update our hero stories!** (*everyone cheers*)

**LIZA:** **We'll get right on it. God's love for His people is more exciting than any made-up stories!**

(*music begins to "Spend Awhile on the Nile-Reprise"*)

**RUTHIE:** **And God will never give up on His children!**

**MR. CRUISE:** **Now, ladies and gentlemen, if you will all sit back in your seats, keep your arms and legs inside the boat, we are ready to cast off and finish our "Mighty Ancient Heroes of the Nile" cruise. Now, Liza, these new stories—can they be performed as show tunes?**