

a script from
skitguys.com

“For Now”

by
Katherine McMahon

What In the wake of Jesus’ crucifixion, Peter and John process their grief and Peter struggles to face the mistakes he has made.

Themes: Disciples, Crucifixion, Jesus, Redemption, Hope, Easter, John, Peter, Faith

Who Peter
John

When A day or two after Jesus’ crucifixion

Wear (Props) Characters could be dressed in attire of Biblical times, or as modern-day versions of the characters.

Why Matthew 26:31-56, 69-75; John 16:33

How Perform with the kind of raw emotion we can imagine someone feeling after losing someone close. Let the tension build in some areas, don’t be afraid of silent spaces, and try to convey Peter’s emotional journey throughout.

Time Approximately 4-5 minutes

Peter enters and walks from one side of the stage to the other. When he is about to reach the other side of the stage, John appears from the same entrance as Peter, then calls out to him.

John: Peter.

Peter stops in his tracks and turns.

Peter: Hey, man.

John: Where are you going?

Peter: I... *(Peter looks in the direction he was walking)* ...actually don't know. Just clearing my head.

John: You okay?

Peter looks down, doesn't respond.

John: Yeah, me either. Listen, I know what you're going through, and—

Peter: *(interrupting)* How could you possibly— *(stops himself)* Look, I appreciate what you're trying to do, John. But I don't think you do know. And I don't really feel like—

John: *(interrupting)* I lost Him too. We all did. I'm mourning just like you are.

Peter: 'Mourning' doesn't seem to even begin to cover it.

John: I know. How about 'numb'? 'Lost'? 'Scared'?

Peter: Try 'terrified'. If you knew what I'd been through these last few days...

John: *(growing frustrated)* What you've been through? Peter, I was there. I was the one that had to stand there and watch—

John stops, choking back emotion.

John: I watched them nail Him to that cross. I watched as He suffered. I stood there next to His mother as she watched her own Son die. I heard His last words. His last breath. I was there, Peter!

Peter: *(yells)* Exactly! *(beat, repeats softly)* Exactly. You were there. And I was nowhere to be found. *(beat)* I told Jesus that I would never fall away, that I would die with Him if I had to.

John: I know. I heard you.

Peter: Then you heard what He said to me.

John: He said that you would deny Him. *(beat)* Did you?

Peter nods, ashamed.

Peter: Three times. Three times, I claimed to not even know who He was.

John: You were afraid.

Peter: Earlier, in the garden, Jesus confided in us that he was overwhelmed with sorrow. He asked us to stay with Him and keep watch. And what did I do?

John: You fell asleep. We all did.

Peter: I lashed out and attacked a man as Jesus was being arrested. And then I ran like a coward.

John: So did I.

Peter: But you went back. That's the difference, John. You were there. And I ran.

John: Peter, how many times did Jesus speak about forgiveness? How many times did He give people second chances?

Peter: I've already used up way more chances than that.

John: I think most of us have. You've made mistakes. But those things are not the sum of who you are. Jesus chose you for a reason. Peter, you've walked on water. Only you stepped out of the boat that morning on the lake.

Peter: Yeah, and then I started sinking.

John: Why did you sink?

Peter: I was afraid.

John: So don't let that same fear overtake you now. Why did you step out in the first place?

Peter: *(considers the question)* Because I had faith.

John: And that's what you need to hold onto.

Peter: Does it even matter? He's gone. It's over.

John: Of course it matters.

Peter: Then what now? What happens next?

John: I don't know.

Peter: Is this just it? Everything we worked for? Everything He worked for?

John: I don't know, Peter. I don't understand it. I've spent the last two days trying to understand it, and I just don't. And maybe I don't need to. Not yet, anyway.

Peter: How can you say that?

John: One of the last things He said to us before he was arrested was that in this world, we'll have troubles, but to take heart — He has overcome the world.

Peter: I don't even know what that means.

John: *(breathes a short laugh)* To be honest, I don't really either. But He said to take heart. I guess that's all we can do for now.

Peter: And that's enough for you?

John: For now.

Peter: That simple?

John: It's not simple at all. It might be one of the hardest things I'll ever have to do. I guess I'm gonna need the kind of faith it took you to step out of the boat that day.

Peter: Faith enough to take heart.

John: *(smiles)* For now.

AT

SKITGUYS.COM