

A script from



"I Should Never Have Let You Name It"

by
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- What** Joseph tells his seven-year-old son Yeshua (Jesus) that they must kill the lamb that Yeshua has raised for the last year. **Themes:** Good Friday, Easter, Holy Week
- Who** Joseph, husband of Mary, "step-father" of Jesus
- When** Bible times
- Wear (Props)** Contemporary dress of a working man
- Why** Exodus 12, and various passages describing Jesus as the Passover Lamb of God. Exodus 12: 3,5,6,7, 13
- How** Joseph speaks to an unseen seven-year-old Jesus. Joseph must be able to "see" this boy, and, when the boy runs off, must be able to see him in the distance. This should have a very "hesitant" feel to it, with Joseph not wanting to rush in to the chore he has, in telling Jesus what is about to happen. Don't feel pressured to "force a resolution" for this monologue
- Time** Approximately 4 minutes

Joseph sits in a simple chair, and motions for his son to come stand by his side. He speaks directly to his unseen son. Joseph might be fiddling with a tool.

Yeshua. Come here, boy. Leave your lamb, come here. Sit down, and listen. Listen, boy. You are seven years old now, and that is old enough to hear what is true. Sit still now. Sit still, and listen.

Sighs, takes a beat, looking outside toward the lamb he sees off in the distance.

That lamb out there, that you have been raising...he— *(Yeshua interrupts and tells the lamb's name)* Yes, Thomas. I should never have let you name that lamb. I told you, when we first got them all a year ago, and you wanted to raise that one. Yes, Thomas. I told you not to name it, not to get too close to it, because yours might turn out to be the only perfect one we have. *(Another sigh, a beat)* Now. We got five lambs, and that lamb of yours...out there...is the only of the five that is not flawed. We got one suitable lamb...and it's yours.

So...tomorrow, boy, when we travel to Jerusalem, for Passover...tomorrow, we will take your— *(Yeshua interrupts, with Thomas' name)* Thomas. We will take Thomas with us. And...on the day, at twilight, with all the others, we will remember.

Grits his teeth and does his best to "get through this"

And then...I will put my hand on the head of your lamb, and...I will slit his throat, and drain the blood. Then we will roast the meat, and celebrate God's great rescue of His people.

Watches Yeshua, who is very upset, run off to be with his lamb. He calls off after him.

Yeshua! Don't run!

He watches a bit more, and then, resigned, says to himself.

Oh, go ahead. Run. Run to your lamb.

He hears Yeshua call out to him, "it's not fair!" and then Joseph says, almost to himself.

I know, boy. It does not seem fair. I'm not sure what fair is. I wish I could explain it well...to you: Lambs and goats and bulls and blood. And what is perfect, and what is not perfect. And how to make things...right.

We're supposed to do this...to celebrate the rescue. But...I wish I could spare you...Yeshua, from watching that lamb die. I should never have let you name it. *(Lights out)*