

a script from



# WORSHIP

## "Tomb Raider"

By  
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**What** When Jesus rose from the dead, he left the tomb behind. Today, our 'tombs' can take a variety of forms... self-doubt, anxiety, hopelessness, disobedience. We choose not to leave. This easy to stage Reader's Theater encourages us to be 'tomb raiders' and allow the power of the risen Christ to set us free.

Themes: Easter, Freedom. Hope

**Who** Reader One  
Reader Two  
Reader Three  
Reader Four

**When** Present Day

**Costumes** Period clothing or modern attire

**Props** Four music stands (optional)

**Why** 1 John 1:5, Jeremiah 29:11

**How** Readers are spread out from stage right to stage left. Each holding a folder with the script or on a music stand in front of them. As in all effective Reader's Theater, scripts should be memorized as much as possible, to allow freedom of the reader to give the piece the emotional range it needs. Projected picture of Jesus' tomb with stone askew.

**Time** 4 minutes

At curtain, **Readers** enter the performance space, and take their places. After a few beats -

**Reader One:** There it is.

**Reader Two:** The tomb that held Jesus.

**Reader Three:** The soldiers and teachers of the law

**Reader Four:** Thought it a secure place.

**Reader One:** Confident in its finality.

**Reader Two:** The stone, massive.

**Reader Three:** Unmovable.

**Reader Four:** The tomb,

**Reader One:** Deep.

**Reader Two:** Dark.

**Reader Three:** Lifeless.

**Reader Four:** Guarded. Keeping the one, Jesus, captive.

**All:** Forever.

*Pause.*

**Reader One:** Or so they thought.

**Reader Two:** The stone, moveable.

**Reader Three:** Guards astonished.

**Reader Four:** Law givers angry.

**Reader One:** The tomb, emptied, with power and light.

**Reader Two:** The Christ.

**Reader Three:** Jesus.

**All:** Resurrected!

**Reader Four:** Risen!

**Reader One:** *Gone* from that dark place.

**Reader Two:** *Gone* from its cold depth.

**Reader Three:** *Gone* from its hopeless escape.

**Reader Four:** Gone. To be with us-

**All:** Forever.

*Pause.*

**Reader One:** Today, *my* tomb is full.

**Reader Two:** Pain lives in that tomb.

**Reader Three:** Doubt dwells there.

**Reader Four:** Fear thrives there.

**Reader One:** What I have allowed to be there.

**Reader Two:** Hopelessness has a heartbeat in there.

**Reader Three:** Disobedience creeps in and out.

**Reader Four:** Over and over.

**Reader One:** I remain shackled.

**Reader Two:** Darkness surrounds me there.

**Reader Three:** I am trapped in that tomb..

**Reader: Four** Behind a stone-

**All:** -of my own design.

*Pause.*

**Reader One:** My tomb, guarded by those with plans.

**Reader Two:** Plans *not* to see me prosper.

**Reader Three:** To stay shackled. Compliant.

**Reader Four:** With no hope for the future.

**Reader One:** No real hope...

**Reader Two:** that can last.

*Pause.*

**Reader Three:** Then,

**Reader Four:** I am reminded-

**Reader One:** of an even deeper tomb, emptied.

**Reader Two:** So long ago.

**Reader Three:** A stone moved.

**Reader Four:** Releasing new life.

**Reader One:** Freeing the captives

**Reader Two :** from themselves.

**Reader Three:** Freedom.

**All:** Forever.

*Pause.*

**Reader One:** Now, Christ calls me-

**Reader Two:** to raid *my* tomb

**Reader Three:** with His power and light.

**Reader Four:** To go into the deep recesses of those dark places

**Reader One:** and allow Him to cleanse,

**Reader Two:** to shine, because there is no darkness in Him.

**Reader Three:** And my darkness...

**Reader Four:** my tomb...

**Reader One:** can be set ablaze.

**Reader Two:** Power and light.

**Reader Three:** Raid this tomb of mine, with this light, and dispel all-

**Reader Four:** that is negative and life-taking.

**Reader One:** And then I invite the One who rose above it all

**Reader Two:** to do it again.

**Reader Three:** Moving my stone,

**Reader Four:** giving real life where none was expected,

**Reader One:** helping me walk into His arms.

**Reader Two:** Forgiven.

**Reader Three:** Cleansed.

**Reader Four:** Hope for the future.

**All:** Restored.

*Pause.*

**Reader One:** Your tomb

**Reader Two:** is *not* sealed forever.

**Reader Three:** Raid it.

**Reader Four:** Light it.

**Reader One:** Challenge it.

**Reader Three:** Face it.

**Reader Four:** Acknowledge it.

**Reader One:** Open up and-

**All:** Let Him in.

**Reader Three:** And then watch the One who was resurrected

**Reader Four:** bring *you* new life.

**ALL:** Then...

**Reader One:** Come *out* of that tomb.

**Reader Two:** Rise with the One who has set you free.

**Reader Three:** Free of the pain-

**Reader Four:** and hurt-

**Reader One:** and fear-

**Reader Two:** and sin-

**Reader Three:** and shame-

**Reader Four:** and doubt.

**Reader One:** Come out of the tomb...

**Reader Two:** past the guards you've set yourself.

**Reader Three:** Walk out of that place-

**Reader Four:** and into the light.

**ALL:** Forever.

*Curtain.*