

"The Battle of the Sexes: Round One" Preview #1

(Music and sounds effects open: Cut #1; dramatic music, accompanied by thunderous booming and wind. Also begin the continuous jungle effects you have placed on tape from Cut #6.)

Narrator: *(On the soundtrack.)* The backstory to this little drama is pretty short: because Adam and Eve ate of the Tree which God had forbidden them to eat, they were cast out of the garden. And the Lord placed angels at the entrance to keep them from returning. All in all, things looked pretty bleak. We join the unhappy couple just outside the garden, as the thunder of judgment dies off in the distance.

(Adam and Eve run onto stage during the above narration and hold each other, quaking, as they flee from the storm, driving them out of the garden. The thunder settles down and fades, and they are left holding each other. Adam looks stricken and Eve is crying onto his shoulder. Adam is clearly concerned, but is sort of bluffing his way through it at first for her sake.)

Adam: *(As the thunder and wind are dying.)* "Whew! You've got to hand it to the Lord, He really has a great flair for the dramatic!"

Eve: "Oh, Adam, why do you take everything so lightly? Everything's ruined! We've been evicted from our Eden and cursed."

Adam: "Now, now, don't keep on crying, Eve, we'll make it somehow. Look at it this way... things can't possibly get any worse!"

(Sound effects CD Track #2: A snarl sounds nearby, with growls. Eve starts, frightened by this, and clutches Adam, who looks as afraid as she does.)

Eve: "What's that?"

Adam: "I don't know... but it sounds like things are about to get worse!"

(Another animal screams, and thrashing noises are heard.)

Adam: *(Leaving Eve, he walks cautiously toward the right side of the stage and looks off it. He reacts to the thrashing, roaring and squeeling with shock.)* "A tiger is attacking a bush hog! Oooo, that's gotta hurt!"

Eve: "What, Adam? What's happening?"

Adam: *(Coming back to Eve, he blocks her from getting any closer and steers her away.)* "Trust me, you do not want to know. That never happened before." *(He shudders.)*

Eve: *(in walking, she steps on something sharp.)* "Ow! Ow!" *(She hops on one foot, holding the other in her hand.)*

Adam: *(Begins hopping on one foot also.)* "Hey, Eve, nice dance step there, is that new?"

Eve: "Adam, you insensitive clod! Something is stuck in my foot and it's as painful as sin! See what it is!"

(She holds it up as he kneels to look at it, and mimes pulling out a large thorn, as she winces.)

Adam: *(Looking at it.)* "Looks like a thorn."

Eve: "What's a thorn?"

Adam: "I don't know, I never saw one before."

Eve: *(Rubbing her foot.)* "Then how do you know it's a thorn?"

Adam: *(shrugs)* "It doesn't look like anything else."

Eve: *(Looking around with apprehension, she draws close to Adam.)* "Adam, I'm frightened... it's getting dark, and there are more big scary animal noises, and I'm..."

Adam: "Huh?"

Eve: "I'm... I'm..."

Adam: (Taking her by the shoulders.) "Just spit it out!"

(She sneezes loudly and violently in his face.)

Adam: *(He recoils and wipes his face, then wipes his hands on his animal skin.)* "Why did you do that?"

Eve: "I don't know, I couldn't help it... I think these smelly animal skins are making me do it!"

Adam: "Well, they're better than the fig leaves. I think I have a radish from those things."

Eve: "You mean a 'rash."

Adam: "'Radish, rash... whatever, they both make me itch."

(She sneezes again loudly and Adam ducks.)

Eve: *(She sniffs.)* "Sorry."

Adam: "It's the curse..."

Eve: "I didn't curse, I think it was a... a sneeze."

Adam: "No, I said it's the curse that... *(He does a double-take.)* 'Sneeze?' What kind of a word is that, 'sneeze?' That's ridiculous sounding. 'Sneeze.'"

Eve: "Well, who says you have to be the one making up all the words? I think 'sneeze' describes it perfectly."

Adam: "It's a stupid word. Snee-e-e-e-e-eze. It's nonsensicle! Nobody will ever use it. Just leave the new word creation up to me."

Eve: *(Putting her hands on her hips.)* "They will too use it. Years from now, when people... "sneeze," *(Adam rolls his eyes)* they'll have me to thank for it, whether they know it or not! You're not the only creative one... I have something to contribute, too, you know."

Adam: "Oh, yeah, you're real good at contributing. You contributed to this whole mess we're in."

Eve: *(crossing her arms and turning away from him.)* "There you go, blaming me for it again! It wasn't my fault you lost control of your appetite."

Adam: "My appetite... MY appetite? You're the one who ate us out of house and home! Eve, what part of "forbidden fruit" didn't you understand? 'For-bid-den,' Eve, it meant 'Don't eat the stupid fruit!'"

Eve: "Don't raise your voice at me, Mr. Adam; you sure were quick to snarf a big bite when I offered it to you!"

Adam: "Because I listened to you! I should have known better. I knew it was a stupid thing to do, but did I listen to my better judgment? Nooo, I listened to you. Well, from this day forward, man shall not hearkeneth unto a woman!"

(He picks up a stick and holds it horizontally in front of him at about waist level. He begins to walk back and forth across the stage, making a loud "rrrrrrr" sound. He is going through the motions of pushing a lawn mower.)

Eve: *(She follows behind him as he goes back and forth, talking loudly over his noisemaking.)* "You never really listened to me before, Adam. What made you then? Because you secretly wanted to taste the fruit, too!"

Adam: *(With his back turned to her, he continues "mowing.")* "I can't heeeear you! Mowing the lawn!"

Eve: "That's it! You overheard what the serpent said to me, and you wanted to be like a god, knowing good and evil! Well, now you know, so how's it taste, big man?"

Adam: "I'm busy, and I still can't hear you!"

(Eve blocks his path and stands with her hands on her hips again.)

Eve: "What are you doing? You look so silly!"