

Mud Lake School
Mud Lake
presents

"The Soldier"

Cast

Kyla.....Laura Chaulk

The Soldier (Judy).....Ashley Best

Jason.....Wallace Chaulk

Maria.....Randi Best

Teacher Advisor

Chris Martin



Manasse Bennett
Queen of Peace Elementary

Stage is dark. Sound of plane passing, followed by explosion.

Scene 1: The middle of town

Open with lights dimly. A ruined well is at center stage. To the left and right, rubble. A ruined statue. People laying on the ground. Villagers begin to get up slowly. Rubbing head, arms. Faces dirty. Looking confused.

Maria: *(Coughing)* What happened?

Jason: I don't know.....are you okay?

Maria: I guess so. Nothing's broken.....at least I don't think so. *(Rubbing arm)*

Jason: I was getting some water from the well, then I felt like I was being pushed, and the next thing, I'm lying on my back.

Maria: Where's Kyla?

Kyla: *(Getting up from rubble)* I'm over here, Mom!

Maria: Oh my God, are you okay? *(Runs to daughter, begins to fawn over her, hugs her)*

Kyla: What happened?

Maria: I'm not sure - are you okay?

Kyla: Yes. *(Coughs)* but this dust is choking me.

(Maria moves to get water from the well. She dips the bucket repeatedly)

Jason: Oh my God! What happened to the church? There's.....there's nothing , nothing left of it! *(Crouches down, begins searching through the rubble)* Not even our scriptures!

Maria: Whatever happened, it caved in the well, too.

Jason: *(Pointing up at the sky)* Look! I can see contrails! Enemy planes must have done this.

Maria: To a harmless village? It must have been an accident.

Jason: That was no accident. What else could you expect from creatures like that.

Kyla: Why would anyone even thing -

Jason: Hey. It doesn't matter if it's an accident or not. If it wasn't for their stupid war this would never have happened. I'm telling you now, just give me a chance to get my hands on one of them and I swear -

Maria: *(In a tired voice)* Look, we can argue this all day. Why don't we just start getting this cleaned up. We need to clear that well if we want any water.

Scene 2: The center of town

Open with Jason raking up the rubble. Maria is picking up stones. Jason throws down the rake in frustration. Kyla is helping her mother pick up stones.

Jason: Why did God do this to our town?

Maria: God didn't do it, the enemy bombs did. You heard the plane, you heard the explosion.

Jason: But that's just it. God didn't stop the planes from coming and God didn't stop the bombs from falling.

Kyla: Jason, stop it, just stop blaming things on God when something in your life goes wrong.

Maria: Yeah Jason. You should know that God doesn't make war. God didn't have any part in this, it just happened that way.

Jason: Well, there wouldn't be any war if God had helped us. We wouldn't be suffering right now. God should be helping the good people, not the bad. Well, I hate God. What's the point of being good if it doesn't count for anything. Why should I bother fixing up the town? It's only going to get knocked down again someday anyways.

Maria: Jason! How dare you! In front of my daughter! Why would you say something like that? We can't give up hope, even if this did happen, even if..... *(she drops the rocks)* I, I guess you're right. It doesn't matter, does it? *(Looks over at Kyla. Kyla looks down)*

Jason: Misery. Anger. Suffering. Is that really all we have left?

Scene 3: Center of town

Kyla is cleaning rubble. Soldier, limping and holding shoulder, enters from stage right exhausted. She sits down. Hangs head down in relief.

Kyla: Hello, who are you?

Soldier: *(Mumbles)* Judy.

Kyla: *(Shouts)* What?

Soldier: Judy.

Kyla: Oh.

Soldier: Well, can you tell me your name are where we are?

Kyla: I'm Kyla and we're in the village of Kashmar, which is near a river, which is..... well I guess I really know much more than that, but then again.....

Soldier: *(Cuts in)* I get it.

Kyla: Do you need any more help?

Soldier: No. *(Takes a drink from her canteen)* I think I'm just going to lie down for a minute. *(Falls to the floor)*

Kyla: Mother! *(Exit)*

Scene 4: center of town

Jason and Maria are standing over the unmoving body of the soldier. Kyla is standing next to her mother.

Jason: *(With disgust)* Look at her, she's one of their soldiers.

Maria: I think she's a pilot. Look at the badge on her arm.

Jason: Look, she's got a gun. *(Takes gun from her side)* We'd better keep this.

Kyla: Mom, I think she might be hurt, she was limping and holding her shoulder when she came to the village.

Maria: Okay Kyla. Jason, could you put that away? It could be dangerous.

Jason: We might need it. She could be dangerous.

Maria: How can she be dangerous? She's not even conscious!

Jason: How do we know that? She could be faking. *(Nudges her with his boot)*

Maria: Can't you see she needs help. It doesn't look like she's had much water.

Jason: Yes Maria, but we don't have much water either.

Kyla: Jason, don't be so mean all the time. If you had a heart you'd know she would need help.

Jason: *(Ignoring her)* What's that? *(Pointing to her water canteen)*

Maria: I don't know. *(She bends down to see what it is)* It got something in it, a liquid I think.

Kyla: Yeah, she took a drink of water when she got here.

Jason: Let's drink it and make her mad! It's only fair pay for the damage she did. They say an eye for an eye, don't they? *(Takes water from the soldier)*

Maria: Don't even think of it Jason. I knew that this would take it's toll on you but I never thought you would go this far.

Jason: Don't worry, I won't drink it till she wakes up!

Maria: You can't do this to her. I know she is one of their soldiers, but still you have to help her. We can't treat her like an animal!

Jason: Why not? *(Long moment of silence)* She's waking up.

Kyla: Are you okay, Judy?

Soldier: Yeah, I'm okay. *(Goes to reach for her water)* Where's my water and my pistol?

Kyla: He has it. *(Points to Jason)*

Soldier: Hey, give it back!

Jason: You know what soldier, I'm getting thirsty. *(Takes a drink out of the canteen)*

Maria: Jason, don't be so cruel! Here Judy. *(Hands the soldier some water)*

Jason: Don't do that! That thing is the enemy!

Kyla: She's hurt, she needs our help, her shoulder is sore. She was holding it when she came to town like I said before.

Jason: Well, you can help it but I won't. I'm going for a walk. *(Walks off stage)*

Maria: Kyla, go and see if the nurse's office isn't damaged and get me some bandages, okay?

Kyla: Okay. *(Goes off stage)*

Soldier: Could you tell me where I am?

Maria: Our village is named Kashmar.

(Judy looking very scared when Kyla returns)

Kyla: Here are the bandages Mom. *(Gives her the bandages)* Are you okay Judy?

Judy: My shoulder is still very sore.

Kyla: Mom, can you please hurry up and make her better.

Maria: Kyla, can you please be patient. I'm doing everything I can.

Kyla: Are you sure you're okay? You still look like you're going to puke.

Soldier: I'm fine, just thought of something.

Kyla: What?

Soldier: Oh, nothing important.

Maria: Hold still or your shoulder won't get better.

Soldier: I can't help it, it's sore.

Kyla: Mom, could you be a little gentler with her?

Maria: Kyla, could you please be quiet. I'm doing the best I can and if you want to criticize my work go somewhere else.

Kyla: I'm sorry Mom. I'm just worried about Judy.

Soldier: Don't worry about me. I'll be fine.

Maria: There! Now that wasn't too bad was it?

Soldier: No. Thank you.

(Jason returns)

Jason: *(Has the gun out)* YOU!

Maria: Jason, what is it?

Jason: I went for a walk because I didn't want to be around a bunch of cowards. I went to the desert and found a plane. It was on the ground. It looked like it crashed so I went to check it out.....

Soldier: It's my plane.

Kyla: What?!

Jason: *(Pointing at soldier)* I knew it all along it was you.

Maria: What are you talking about? She was here the whole day. What could she possibly have done?

Soldier: *(Speaking fast)* It was me. I bombed your village. I'm sorry. It was an order - I wouldn't have done it otherwise. Look, our military thinks this place is a gun factory. Nobody told me it was a village. I'm sorry. I'm really, really sorry. I just want to go home. In fact, I think we should all leave here because -

Jason: *(Interrupts soldier)* I knew it. Now I'm going to put you through as much pain as we were. *(Jason points the gun at the soldier. Kyla steps in front of her)*

Kyla: Well, go right ahead Jason. No one's stopping you.

Jason: Move out of the way, Kyla.

Soldier: Listen all of you. We need to leave here. If this is the village I was sent to target,

more planes will be coming.

Jason: More lies from the enemy. What more can you expect. They just want to take our village.

Maria: Take what Jason? There's nothing left here. Why do you always have to be so.....

Soldier: I'm telling you we need to get everyone out of the village and go!

Shauna: Now Kyla move.....please get out of the way!

Soldier: Give me my things. I want to go!

(All four continue to argue)

Soldier: I'm going to leave. *(Begins to pick up backpack)*

Maria: Shhh! Did you hear that?

Jason: Your right. What is that?

Kyla: Mom look up.

Kyla and Shauna hug each other. They all look up. Sound of planes flying. Sound of bomb exploding. Lighting off.