

PASSION PLAY – 2025 MARY LAZ. SCRIPT (12.17.24)

ACT I—Scene 1: Raising of Lazarus

VOICEOVER of Isaiah 9:2 in Hebrew transitioning to English:

“The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.”

JAMES: Martha, the Master is here.

MARTHA: My Lord, if only you'd been here, my brother would still be alive. *(Pauses as if sorry for being vindictive)* Even now, though he has died, I know God will give you anything you ask for.

JESUS: Your brother will rise again.

MARTHA: *(Not seeing the requested miracle in His reply)* I know he will rise again, in the resurrection on the last day.

JESUS: I AM the Resurrection. I AM the Life. Whoever believes in me, even though he dies, will live. And whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Martha, do you believe this?

MARTHA: I do Lord. I believe you are the Messiah, the Son of God come to the world.

MARY Laz.: Lord, if you had been here my brother wouldn't have died.

JESUS: Oh, Mary ...*(Jesus wept)*..... Let's go to him.

JOANNA: See? He did love him.

MARY CLEO: He opened blind eyes; He could've healed Lazarus.

JESUS: Take the stone away!

(Nate & Thad open the tomb)

MARTHA: Lord, he's been here four days.

JESUS: Didn't I tell you that if you believe, you will see God's glory?

Father, I give thanks because you hear me. I know you always hear. I say it so those present will know You have sent Me Lazarus, come forth!

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[LAZARUS emerges.]

MARY Laz.: He lives!

(Crowd sounds praising God for miracle)

MARTHA: Lazarus! *(running to Lazarus, then turning back to Jesus)* Oh, Jesus!

JESUS: Remove the grave clothes; and let him go.

WITNESSING MOURNER: We must tell the High Priests about this act of God. *(He goes down steps, thru gate 1, runs across to High Priest).*

Act I—Scene 5: Anointing Scene

MARTHA: I give thanks to the Lord.

MARY LAZ: It's true; His faithful love endures forever.

JOHN: Yes, we have so much to be thankful for.

LAZARUS: He is my salvation. I will not die, but I'll live and proclaim what my God has done.

Act III—Scene 8a: Crucifixion

LONGINUS: *(To SCRIBE) (2:45)* Record this: Three crucified at nine o'clock this morning, Gastas and Dysmas for theft and rebellion, and one Jesus, King of the Jews! Nail him to the cross.

NICODEMUS: *(3:00-3:05)* It's as He told me... Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness...

(NAIL, NAIL.)

MOTHER MARY: *(3:15)* so the Son of Man must be lifted up...

(NAIL, NAIL.)

NICODEMUS: *(3:22)* This is what he meant.

(NAIL, NAIL, NAIL.)

JOHN: *(3:28-48)* For God so loves the world that He has given His Only Begotten Son... *(Record as well He has given His One and Ony Son for redundancy)*

JESUS: *(4:01)* Father, forgive them! They do not know what they do!

GASTAS: *(4:05)* Are You not the Messiah? Save yourself...and us!

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DYSMAS: (4:17) Have you no fear of God? You are under the same sentence as He, for it is plain justice. We are paying the price for our misdeeds, but this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom!

JESUS: (4:40) I tell you the truth. Today, you will be with me in Paradise.

PRIEST 1: (4:56) You said you were The Son of God; if You are, come down from the cross!

PRIEST 2: Are You, our King? Come down, and then we will believe!

PRIEST 3: (5:07) He has saved others; why can't He save himself?

PRIEST 1: (5:11) Why won't God rescue Him, if He is God's Son?

MARY LAZ: (5:30) What are they doing? What's happening?

SIMON OF CYRENE: (5:35) The Roman soldiers are dividing his garments.

JOSEPH: (5:37) How can this be? How can they know? Is this David's prophecy?

NICODEMUS: (5:43) It must be. "They have pierced his hands and his feet. They divided his clothes among them and cast lots for his garments."

JESUS: (6:00) Mother, see your son! (6:07) John, here is your mother!

JESUS: (6:20-23) (*Record two versions: One with a loud voice and another with a very soft voice*) My GOD! My GOD! Why have You forsaken Me?

ROMAN 1: (6:33) (*To ROMAN 2*) What is this? A Storm?

ROMAN 2: I don't know. It's midday, but the sun is going dark.

LONGINUS: I can feel this darkness. Report this to Pilate.

JESUS: (6:50) ...I...I am thirsty.

JESUS: (With a loud voice) (7:06) It is finished! (7:17) Father! Into Your Hand, I commit my Spirit!

Act IV—Scene 2: Burial

JOSEPH: Friends, Pilate has granted us the body.

JAMES: Let us take him down from the cross.

NICODEMUS: We have brought spices and linen to bury Him.

JOSEPH: And I have a new tomb nearby; we can take Him there.

MOTHER: My own Son, how has this happened? Simeon warned me of this so many years ago, when Joseph and I first brought him to Jerusalem. I cradled him tightly, my little baby boy, after Simeon told me: "A sword will pierce your soul." Now I know what he meant.

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(The Pieta)

NICODEMUS: Is this what the prophet Isaiah spoke of?

JOSEPH: Surely, He took up our pain...

MOTHER: He bore our suffering...

JOHN: He was pierced for our transgressions,

MARY LAZ: crushed for our iniquities,

MAGDALENE: the punishment that brought us peace was upon him,

MOTHER: and by his wounds we are healed.

Act IV—Scene 6: Empty Tomb

JOANNA: Why is the stone rolled away?

MARY MAG.: I don't know! Are the guards alright?

MARY LAZ.: *(Rising from looking at one of the guards)*
They appear to be fine, and no sign of fighting.

MARY MAG.: Then where's the body? Has someone taken it? Who has taken it?
[ANGEL steps forward.]

ANGEL: Why do you look for the living among the dead? You are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. Do not be afraid. He is not here; he is risen, just as he said.

Go and tell this to his disciples and Peter. **Jesus will appear to them as well. For He was raised from the dead so that whosoever believes in Him shall have victory over death and shall have the gift of everlasting life.**

Act IV—Scene 8: Appearance to Mary Magdalene

MARY MAG.: There were guards lying here unconscious.

JOHN: *(To Peter)* The wrappings are here, but no body.

PETER: *(Going inside first)* The cloth that was on His head is folded and off by itself.

JOHN: *(Falling on his knees)* It's what He said! *(Raising his hands)* I believe.

MARY LAZ.: Let's go to the others at John Mark's house.
The angel said He would appear to them!

MARY MAG.: *(Coming out of Simon's house)* Was there something you wanted, Peter? *[She sees his distress]* Are you alright?