

YORK MYSTERIES @ HOME

www.yorkmysteriesathome.co.uk

You and your household are invited to create your own performance of the York Mystery Plays. In a time when it is difficult or even impossible to gather to create plays in person, we can instead find our own ways of performing in our own homes.

The following is an abridged adaptation of one of the Plays. You may wish to use this script, or create your own.

PLAY FOUR- PROHIBITION OF THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE

GOD Adam and Eve, this is the place
That I have granted you of my grace
To have your living in.
This place is paradise,
Here shall your joys start;
And if you are wise,
You shall never be torn apart.

ADAM O lord, loved be thy name,
For now is this a joyful home.

EVE Here is a joyful sight
Wherein we shall dwell.

GOD All things are made, man, for thy power,
All creators shall to thee bow-
Except this tree alone,
Adam, this out-take I;
The fruit of it take none,
For if you do, then shall you die.

ADAM Alas lord, that we should do such ill,
We shall never go near this tree nor the bough,
Nor eat the fruit that thereon grow
There with our flesh to feed.

EVE We shall do thy bidding,
We have none other need;
This fruit ever shall hang,
Lord, that you have forbade.

GOD Look that you do as you have said-
This tree that bears the fruit of life,
Look neither thou nor Eve thy wife
Lay on your hands to take your fill.
For to eat is to know both good and ill,
This fruit if you let not hang
You speed yourself to kill.

Therefore this tree I out-take.

Now keep it gravely for my sake,
That nothing comes it near;
All others at your will shall be,
I take out nothing but this tree.
Adam, and Eve thy wife,
My blessing have you here.

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York Mysteries @Home is part of an ongoing investigation into community theatre in York, as part of a PhD by Creative Practice in Theatre (Directing) at the University of York.

For further details on the researcher/director, Tom Straszewski, visit <https://www.york.ac.uk/tfti/study/postgraduate/profiles/tomstraszewski/>

*Supervised by Dr Ollie Jones (TFTI) and Dr Kate Giles (Archaeology).
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