

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 SIX- THE EXPULSION FROM EDEN

- ADAM** Alas, wretches, what have we wrought?
We had enough. Now have we nought.
- EVE** Our cares are coming, cutting and cold,
With foul fascinations manifold;
Alas, that tyrant to me told,
Through his guile,
That we should have all the wealth in world-
Woe worth our while.
- ANGEL** Adam, have this, look. How do you think?
Now dig for all thy meat and drink
For evermore.
- Eve, for thou deceived him so,
Labour here shall pain thee,
Thy bairns thou'll bear with mickle woe-
This I warn thee.
- EVE** Alas for this pain, what may this be?
This world unwisely wrought have we,
This earth it trembles for the tree
And dins each dell!
All this world is wrath with me,
This know I well.
- ADAM** To see it is a sorrowful sight,
We both that were in bliss so bright,
Alas, that woman's wit was light!
That was well seen.
- EVE** Since it was so, it gnaws me sore,
But since it was witless that woman witless were
Your mastery should have been more
Against the guilt.
- ADAM** Nay, at my speech would thou never spare,
That has us spilt.

EVE Ye should have taken good attention there,
And turned my thought.

ADAM Get away, woman, and name it not,
Now God let never man after me
Trust woman's tale.

EVE Be still Adam, and name it no more,
I cannot mend.
For well I wit I have done wrong,
And therefore ever I'll mourn among,
Alas, that I might live so long-
Dead would I be.

ADAM On ground can I never gladly go,
Without glee.
Without glee I go,
This sorrow will me slay,
This tree with me will I take
That to me, God did send.
He that wrought us, remove us from woe
Where-ever we wend.

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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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