

THE CREATION CHRONICLES

Created by Ted & Lee

Scene: THE CREATION

Characters: God, Gabriel

Scripture text: Genesis 1

Props: desk, chair, computer keyboard or typewriter and lamp on desk with pull string, clipboard with paper, pen, 8 ½ x 11 (*can be larger*) pieces of cardboard with drawings, easel, large drawing of human form (*DaVinci's Vitruvian man*) covered with cloth

Length: 10 minutes

(GOD is typing at the keyboard)

GOD: Let's see. We've got dry land, water ... little more water, little more, lots of water ... lots and lots of water ... aaah, that's too much water. *(Hits the delete key, several times)* Gabriel!

(GOD looks around. It is dark. He notices the lamp on the desk. Reaches out and pulls the cord. It comes on in sync with stage lights.)

That's better. No, that's good. That's good. Okay, dry land ... I've got dry land ... flying things ... vegetation ... no ... no, first vegetation, then flying things ... yes. Gabriel!!!!

GABRIEL: Coming Lord! *(Runs in)* I came as fast as I could. It's just that there is so much space ... Wow! I like what you've done with the place. So, you wanted to see me?

GOD: Yes Gabriel ... I'd like you to fill out this form.

(GOD hands GABRIEL a clipboard)

GABRIEL: Name? But you already know my name.

GOD: Yes, I know. But you have to fill this out anyway. It's something else I've invented.

GABRIEL: What?

GOD: Bureaucracy.

GABRIEL: (*Filling in the form*) Gabriel. I'm Gabriel. I am Gabriel. Title?

GOD: Put "angel."

GABRIEL: Angel ... job description?

GOD: Creative consultant.

GABRIEL: Average yearly income?

GOD: Just skip that part...

GABRIEL: So what exactly are we doing today?

GOD: That's just the beauty of it. It isn't exactly anything.

GABRIEL: Well then, what are we GENERALLY going to be doing?

GOD: Gabriel ... you're going to be part of the greatest creation in history.

GABRIEL: What's history?

GOD: Exactly. There's land and water and firmament.

GABRIEL: What's firmament?

GOD: It's poetry... means lots of space. (*hands GABRIEL a drawing board*) Here, what do you think of this?

GABRIEL: I like the color. I like the texture. It's very... it's very...

GOD: Good. It's good.

GABRIEL: What is good?

GOD: (*Switches lamp off, then back on*) That's good.

GABRIEL: That IS good. So ... is this what we'll be doing?

GOD: That's just part of it, my boy! Look at these. (*Showing GABRIEL cards with drawings*) These are some of the creatures we'll have. These will crawl on the ground ... yes ... and these are flyers, flying things! And these are swimmers. They will live in the water and they will swim.

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GABRIEL: Why are there two of everything?

GOD: What?

GABRIEL: You drew two of everything: two crawlers, two flyers, two swimmers.

GOD: Oh, there's always two, Gabe. There has to be two. It takes two.

GABRIEL: What does?

GOD: *(Pause)* Never mind. Look at this. Now these ... they will live in the ground and they don't see very well *(Squints)* ... so they will burrow ... burrow through the ground. And these will hop.

GABRIEL: Hop?

GOD: Hop.

GABRIEL: Hop?

(GOD shows hopping)

GOD: And these will curl up into a ball when they're startled ... *(Starts to laugh)*. I can't wait to see that. And these with the large teeth will run and pounce and these will scuttle. They will live near the water and they will scuttle.

GABRIEL: Scuttle?

GOD: Scuttle.

GABRIEL: Scuttle?

(GOD does imitation of crab ... GABRIEL joins in)

GOD: This big one with the big ears will lumber...

GABRIEL: Oh, so it's wood?

GOD: Not that kind of lumber. *(Pause)* Gabriel? I think we've just invented something else.

GABRIEL: What?

GOD: The pun.

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GABRIEL: The pun?

GOD: And Gabriel?

GABRIEL: Yes?

GOD: Don't ever do that again.

GABRIEL: Right, we'll just scrap it.

GOD: Stop it!

GABRIEL: Just nail that baby!

GOD: Please!

GABRIEL: Because it's PLANE to me that...

GOD: I mean it.

GABRIEL: Sorry. I'm really sorry.

GOD: That's all right. I ... forgive you.

GABRIEL: What do you mean?

GOD: It's as if it never happened.

GABRIEL: Wow. Great.

GOD: But don't ever do it again. I can't stress that enough. *(Stands)* Oh, this will be such a day. There will be creatures with four legs and six legs and eight, maybe more. There will be things that fly with wings and things that fly without wings and things with very long necks and things with no necks at all. There will be creatures that sleep hanging upside down; *(Pause)* all the blood's gonna go right to their heads. I may have to fix that. There will be things that start out as crawlers but turn into the most beautiful flyers...

(GABRIEL puts hand up)

GOD: You there, in the white.

GABRIEL: It sounds like there's gonna be a LOT of these creatures. Where will you put them all?

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GOD: That's the best part. They'll be together on this ... well it'll be this sort of round animal. And allllll around it will be air. It's all linked up. See, air will go into the nostril of, say, a turtle ... which she breathes out as a gas. That feeds the grass that the turtle eats. But pow! Gravity pulls down a rockslide on the turtle and she goes back into dirt to again feed the eggs she left behind. And it starts it all over ... breathing, feeding, dying, birthing. It's like one big animal. Can you see it, Gabe? A single place all linked together from turtle eggs to stormy weather.

GABRIEL: And this gravity stuff will hold things down...

GOD: But flight will lift them off the ground!

GABRIEL: And all these creatures that crawl, hop and fly
Will be together in twos, though you won't tell me why....

GOD: Elephants, eagles, parrots, piranhas...

GABRIEL: Badgers and beagles and seagulls and llamas...

GOD: And trips to Bahamas in purple pajamas!

(They laugh uproariously together.)

GABRIEL: What are pajamas?

GOD: I have no idea. It just ... seemed ... like what was next. *(Pause; returns to desk)* I need to write that down.

GABRIEL: *(Inspects a drawing on an easel, covered with a drape)* Hey! What's this?

GOD: Oh, that. I'm still working on it.

GABRIEL: Can I look? *(Raises the sheet to reveal a DaVinci style rendering of the human form)* WOW! Does it crawl or lumber or fly?

GOD: Maybe all of those.

GABRIEL: Will it feed by day or night?

GOD: Yes. Especially when they're young.

GABRIEL: What's it for?

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GOD: I don't know exactly, but I must make it.

GABRIEL: It looks kinda like you.

GOD: Yes. But there are many unknowns. This one is tricky. I like that. I like it that way. I think I'll leave things kinda open-ended.

GABRIEL: But what will it do?

GOD: Yeeeesss. Exactly. What will it do? What will it do?

(GOD gathers things, turns off the lamp, and exits. GABRIEL examines the drawing, then carries it off with him.)

END

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