



# **Scene 2**

## East of Eden

**EXTERIOR - DAY**  
**ADAM & EVE'S HOMESTEAD**

*Adam and Eve are working hard to get some crops in the ground as the sun pounds down on them. He and Eve are both hard at work on their homestead, their clothes simple, their hands and faces dirty from tending the soil. Eve is kneeling by a patch of crops, wiping sweat from her brow as she pulls weeds. Adam is tilling the ground to plant seeds, grunting from the effort. The weight of exile hangs over them, but they carry on with determination.*

**ADAM**

*Pausing to wipe the sweat from his brow*  
You know what I miss?

**EVE**

*Pauses as well, looking up at him with a smirk*  
Good food? Good weather? Good... *she gestures broadly...* EVERYTHING?

**ADAM**

*He looks up at the blazing sun*  
The shade.

**EVE**

*Laughs a little*  
The shade?

**ADAM**

*Nods, leaning on his shovel*  
Yeah...you remember how the trees just grew everywhere?  
Without us having to break our backs planting them? Perfect shade everywhere.  
Not too hot, not too cold.

**EVE**

*Smiles, remembering*  
Mm...yeah. And the fruit! Always so ripe. Always in season. Now we get...

*She holds up a scraggly turnip and wrinkles her nose*  
Whatever THIS is.

**ADAM**

*He thinks for a moment*  
A...tur-nip. I shall name that...a turnip.

**EVE**

*Shakes her head with a chuckle*  
Still with the naming of things...

**ADAM**

Just like the animals...oh! And speaking of animals...remember how you didn't have to chase them away from the garden all the time?

*He laughs a bit*

I remember how that lion was always hanging around with the goats, just chillin' out like it owned the place. We didn't have to worry about him sneaking up on the herds...

**EVE**

Yeah! No snakes sneaking up on you either...

*She pauses and glances at Adam, giving him a knowing look*  
Well, most of the time...

**ADAM**

*His smile fades and he goes back to tilling up the ground*  
Yeah...snakes. I'm still not fond of them.

*A moment of silence passes between them as they half-heartedly go back to their work.*

**EVE**

*She looks down at the dry, stubborn earth*  
The soil never fought back in Eden.  
Back then, it seemed like the earth fought with us, not against us.

**ADAM**

*He nods*  
Feels like everything is fighting us now. The earth, the weather, the animals...

*A child yells angrily off-stage. Adam sighs.*  
Even the kids.

**EVE**

ESPECIALLY the kids.

*Cain, Abel, and the other kids run onto the stage*

**ADAM**

*Groaning*  
Why did we have so many kids...

**EVE**

*Nudges him in the side*  
 “Be fruitful and multiply...”

*The kids run up to them, three of them taking Cain’s side and three taking Abel’s side  
 Team Cain and Team Abel argue with one another, making their case to the parents*

**ABEL**

Mooooom! He’s doing it again!

**EVE**

*Sighs and stands up to address the kids*  
 Doing what, Abel?

**ABEL**

*Pointing at Cain, who’s following closely, ready to defend his actions*  
 He’s tossing dirt around everywhere!

**ACLIMA**

Yeah! He’s getting everyone dirty!

**LUSIA**

He’s ruining the fine wool of our beautiful flocks!

**CAIN**

*Defensively*  
 It’s called digging, Abel! Tilling the ground? Turning the soil?

**LULUWA**

Something you’d know about if you spent more time working and less time frolicking with the animals!

*She prances around, mocking Abel as the other kids on Team Cain laugh*

**AWAN**

*Trying suppress laughter as she mocks the other kids*  
 “Oh no, my pretty sheep! A speck of dirt got on one! It’s the end of days!!”

**KAIA**

*To Adam and Eve*  
 Do you see this? Mockery. They’re mocking us!

**ABEL**

They make a, a, a jape! A jest of my chosen profession.

**CAIN**

*Imitating Abel*

A, A, A JAPE. A JEST. Who cares about a bunch of stupid sheep anyway?

**KALMANA**

Oh boy, here we go again...

**ACLIMA**

Oh, that's rich. That is RICH. Sheep are WAY more valuable than your scrawny plants!

**LUSIA**

What good are a bunch of TUBERS compared to a whole flock of sheep, huh?

**KAIA**

Those sheep can feed a whole family!

**AWAN**

Plants feed the family too, genius!

**LULUWA**

You can't just eat sheep all day!

**KALMANA**

And what do sheep eat, huh? Plants. BOOM.

**CAIN**

*Listing all the uses for plants on his fingers*

Corn, potatoes, wheat, fruits...

*She mic drops*

**ACLIMA**

Sheep's milk. Sheep's cheese.

**KAIA**

Lamb chops. Wool for clothing.

**LUSIA**

AND most people don't know this, but the bladder? Makes a fine hat!

**ABEL**

*As Cain is about to reply, Abel holds up his fingers and interrupts*

And, AND! Sheep make a perfect sacrifice. Boom. There, I said it.

*He mic drops.*

**CAIN***Frustrated*

Oh, here we go again with the sacrifices!  
 Seriously man, you've got to get over this God stuff.  
 Sky daddy doesn't care about us!  
 He kicked mom and dad out of Eden, what's he ever done for us?

**ADAM***Angrily, rebuking him*

Cain!

**KALMANA, LULUWA & AWAN***Backing slowly away, knowing Cain crossed the line*

Oooo...

**KAIA**

You done it now, Cain!

**CAIN**

*Cain folds his arms defensively, turning away from Abel, Adam, and Eve.*  
 All I want is a little recognition! Is that too much to ask for?

**EVE**

Cain...we all have our part to play in this family.  
 Your crops are just as important as Abel's flocks.

**ADAM***He places a hand on Cain's shoulder, reassuringly*

The earth may be hard, the land may be tough, but the Lord hasn't abandoned us.  
 The job you do is important...but not as important as the heart you do it with.  
 The same is true of the sacrifice you bring to the Lord.

*He kneels down to face Cain, eye to eye*

Son...if you do what is right, will you not be accepted?  
 But if you do not do what is right...sin is crouching at your door.  
 It desires to have you, but you must master it.

**CAIN***Bitterly*

Fine.

*He begins to storm off, stops and turns around, addressing Abel*

But I'm still digging my fields!

*He runs off stage followed by the rest of Team Cain*

**ABEL**

*Runs off stage chasing after Cain with the rest of Team Abel*  
Wait! Not next to my beautiful sheep!

**ADAM**

*Shaking his head as he and Eve watch the kids run off*  
You know what I miss?

**EVE**

*Looks at him, smirking*  
No kids?

**ADAM**

*Going back to tilling the ground*  
I'm just sayin'...long peaceful walks in the garden in the cool of the day...

**EVE**

*Going back to her work as well*  
Mhm...and He was always there with us. Just walking and talking.  
At the time, I didn't know how good we had it. I mean, how could we have known?

**ADAM**

Yeah...I keep thinking back to that day. You know...after we ate from the tree.

*He sighs heavily and bitterly jabs the ground with his till*

I still remember what He said to us.

Now the ground is cursed because of you. Through painful toil, you'll eat food from it. By the sweat of your brow, you'll eat your food. Toil, toil, toil. Until you die and are buried in that dirt...  
the same dirt you came from.

**EVE**

*Nods quietly, placing her hand on her stomach*

Mhm...he said that the pains of child bearing would be multiplied.  
As hard and barren as the ground. He said having kids would be hard...and it is.  
But even in the pain and struggle, there's still joy.

*She looks off to where the kids ran*

**ADAM**

*Still digging and sweating*

It feels like the world fights us at every turn. It sure wasn't like that in Eden.

*He wipes his brow*

Every bead of sweat is a reminder of what we lost...



**EVE**

*She nods as Adam starts digging again*

It is a curse. But...it wasn't all curses, was it?

There was grace too. Even in the middle of it all, He gave us a promise.

*Adam stops what he's doing and looks at her as she continues.*

You remember what He said to the serpent?

"I'm declaring war between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers."

*She looks toward the horizon, her eyes filled with hope*

He said there would be a day when our offspring would crush the serpent's head.

**ADAM**

*Nods slowly*

"He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

*He sighs and rubs the back of his neck*

Honestly, I don't get it. Crush the serpent's head? We're out here fighting for our lives and that old snake still seems to have the upper hand.

**EVE**

*Still looking towards the horizon, a faraway look in her eyes*

I don't know what it means either. But I believe...that someday, through our children, through the generations yet to come...the serpent will be defeated.

That's grace. Even in the middle of the curse. Hope.

**ADAM**

You think...maybe that's why we're still here? Why we didn't just die after we ate from that tree?

**EVE**

I think so. I think...He's still writing the story. We may be out of Eden, but He's only getting started. He's still at work, somehow.

**ADAM**

*He looks down at the ground he's been tilling*

Well...until then, maybe we just need to keep planting. Not just in the earth, but in those kids.

*He looks in the direction to where Cain and Abel ran off*

I just hope they understand that someday.

**EVE**

*She walks over to him and smiles, holding his arm*

They will. And we'll keep reminding them.

*Cut to the Livingston Family, seated around the living room listening to Granny Iris*

**GRANNY IRIS**

And that's just what they did. Adam and Eve kept on planting seeds. And so did their children.  
And their children's children! And before long, the whole earth was filled with people!  
And with those people came...well, a whole heap of problems.

**SOPH**

Like what?

**GRANNY IRIS**

Well...sin was so prevalent and violence was so common, that God was broken-hearted. He was sorry that he had ever made humans. He was going to start over with one man and his family. A man named Noah.

**SETH**

Wait? Is this the flood story? Like, with Noah and the ark?

**SADIE**

And all the animals!

**SID**

Two of each kind!

*They both hug Gilgamesh*

**FRANK**

Two of each kind of animal...can you imagine how bad it smelled on that boat?!  
I bet Noah was in serious need of some air fresheners!

**FRANC**

*Serious as ever*

Actually Frank, considering the time period, they would not have had access to air fresheners.  
Though perhaps they could have used certain herbs to cover the smell of all the-

**FRANK**

*Exasperated*

It was a joke, Franc! I'm aware that Noah wasn't packin' Febreze!

**SAM**

So basically...God decided to press the reset button? With rain?

**SETH**

Yeah, just a little light rain...for forty days straight.

**SOPH**

And the death of everyone outside the ark, of course.

**MARK**

*Singing*

Have a holly jolly Christmas...

**BETH**

*Nudges him*

I think what Mark is TRYING to say is...that's not exactly a very...merry Christmas story, Iris.

**GRANNY IRIS**

Well...most of Genesis *is* pretty bleak! The whole point of the flood story isn't about animals or boats or rain. There's a cycle we see repeated throughout the Bible.

God acts to establish something new, but humans sin and destruction follows. For the earth and for people. But, even in the consequences of sin, God is still at work, moving everything towards the redemption of the whole world.

That's what we see in the flood story. God made a promise to Adam and Eve that their offspring would crush the head of the serpent. But humans continue to sin, which results in disastrous flooding. But even after the flood, God continues His mission to redeem all creation. He makes a covenant with Noah.

**SID**

What's a covenant?

**SADIE**

Is it a kind of blanket?

**BETH**

Good guess, Sadie! That's actually pretty close!

**GRANNY IRIS**

That's right! A covenant is like a contract. It's a binding promise. Sometimes God just makes the covenant and promises to keep it without humans having to do anything. And sometimes humans have to do their part. With Noah, God made a promissory covenant to never again destroy the earth by flood.

**SETH**

Next time, it will be WITH FIRE!!

**MARK**

*Singing even louder*

...It's the best time of the year!!

**GRANNY IRIS**

*Gives Mark and Seth a look, then continues*

Do you know who else God made a promissory covenant with?

**SID & SADIE**

*Eagerly, eyes full of curiosity*

Who??

**GRANNY IRIS**

A man named Abram!

**SOPH**

Don't you mean AbraHAM?

**GRANNY IRIS**

Well, when we first meet him, his name is Abram.

He's living in a land called Harran, just another pagan who has no idea who God really is.

**FRANK**

I thought the Bible said that Abraham was righteous? A paragon of the faith?

**FRANC**

Well, well. Looks like someone didn't pay attention in Sunday School.

The Bible says Abraham believed God and it was attributed to him as righteousness.

**GRANNY IRIS**

Right. What's so remarkable about Abram is that he had every reason to question God's character and motives. And yet he believed and obeyed.

**MARK**

Huh. I never thought about it like that. Abram must have wondered "what kind of a god are you anyway? What do you want from me? What kind of sacrifice do I make?"

**SETH**

What's your favorite food?

**SAM**

What's your favorite Taylor Swift song?

**MARK**

*Throws a pillow at them with a chuckle*  
You know what I mean!

**GRANNY IRIS**

And even in his bewilderment, Abram trusts God. And God makes a covenant with Abram to make him into a great nation, one that will bless the whole world.

**SID**

*Thoughtful, leaning forward a bit.*  
But... why Abram? He didn't even know who God was.

**GRANNY IRIS**

*With a gentle smile.*  
Maybe that's the point, Sid. Sometimes the ones God calls are the ones we'd least expect. Abram wasn't perfect, but he was willing to listen, even when it didn't make sense.

**SONG: WHAT KIND OF A GOD ARE YOU?**