

ROE AUDITION MONOLOGUES

MONOLOGUE ONE

NORMA

Well, see I got out of reform school when I was fifteen... And my mother sent me to live with an uncle--and let's just say the rent was not exactly free--so I got a job as a carhop and met Woody--man, did he have a nice car!--and we went to L.A. But he beat the shit out of me when he found out I was pregnant so I came back here to have my baby.

But... I say my mother stole Melissa. Told me she was gonna put my baby on her boyfriend's health insurance, so I sign some papers and go up to bed... Next thing I know, she's knockin' on the door--

"You got five minutes to pack up your shit 'cause you just gave up your daughter."

And she took my baby to Louisiana.

-Hell, all I ever wanted was for that bitch to like me.

Well, there was a carnival in the next town and they were looking for people to work with the animals, and I love animals- You got a dog or somethin'? I love dogs.

Man, I was a natural. "Hurry, hurry, hurry! See the five-legged pony! See the snake with two heads!" Course the shrunken baby in the jar of formaldehyde kinda wiggled me out...

But when the Carnival was over... Well, one night I was walking home... This was in Georgia now... And... I got raped. Which is how I got pregnant with this baby.

MONOLOGUE TWO

I was in my third year of law school in Austin. And my, uh...well, my period was late...

Ron and I... We were already in a serious relationship. We were planning on getting married... But we hadn't--I mean, we'd been...celibate...till... Well, we were planning on marriage--
(to Norma)

I really don't think it's necessary to go into all the details.

I had worked so hard just to get into law school--and to stay there! At that time? Some professors wouldn't even call on a woman in class! And I had to work! I wanted to work! We were both supporting us! It wasn't that I didn't want children--it just wasn't the right time! And if I dropped out of school? My parents...

(pained)

My parents would be so disappointed in me...

Ron heard about a doctor in Piedras Negras, Mexico, across the Texas border, who did abortions. He charged four hundred dollars--cash. That was it, that was our life savings. I remember us following a man in brown pants and a white guayabera shirt down a dirt alley... But the doctor seemed...competent.

(beat)

I was a good girl and did exactly as I was told. When I felt the anesthesia... I remember my last thoughts were: I hope I don't die and I hope no one ever finds out about this. Because back then, when it was illegal...there was shame.

(beat; tries to smile)

Well. Clearly, I was one of the lucky ones.

MONOLOGUE THREE

JUSTICE BLACKMUN

We acknowledge the emotional nature of the abortion controversy and of the deep and seemingly absolute convictions the subject inspires.

One's moral and religious training, one's attitudes towards life and family, are all likely to influence one's conclusions about abortion.

Maternity may force upon the woman a distressful life and future. There is also the problem of bringing a child into a family unable, psychologically and otherwise, to care for it. These are factors the woman and her responsible physician necessarily will consider.

Because I'd worked at the Mayo Clinic and had great respect for doctors.

Each state may also properly assert important interests in maintaining medical standards and protecting potential life.

The compelling point is viability. When the fetus has the capability of life outside the mother's womb.

If the State is interested in protecting fetal life, it may go so far as to proscribe—

The State may prohibit abortion, from the second trimester on--

(reading carefully)

Except when it is necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother.

But! (to audience)

The Court has recognized that a right of privacy does exist under the Constitution. And this right of privacy is broad enough to encompass a woman's decision whether or not to terminate her pregnancy.

(adds quickly)

And I said that the word "person", as used in the Fourteenth Amendment, does not include the unborn.

Justice Harry Blackmun. According to my obituary, I would receive hate mail for the rest of my life, and, in 1989, a bullet would come through my window barely missing me. I'd like to add that my wife and daughter were a profound influence on my thinking. (He exits.)

MONOLOGUE FOUR

FLIP

Good to see you! Thanks for showing up again. Welcome! Welcome! Welcome to the gates of hell. You know, just this morning we showed up at this abortion mill and already two precious babies are saved, and I had the privilege of going to breakfast at the IHOP with one couple who chose life. And how did this happen? Because you showed up at the gates of hell. Well, there is one answer to the abortion holocaust. And that is Jesus Christ.

Friends, it is only as we lay our lives down for the weak, the poor, the defenseless, that we find true meaning in life. And you did that!

Folks in back, can you hear?

You know, after our 11 a.m. service here in Dallas on Sunday, a reporter asked me, "But Flip, if you really believe that abortion is a Gospel issue, why do you encourage your people to become involved in politics?" Well, I have a quote for you, young lady. "Our laws and institutions must be based on the teachings of the Redeemer of Mankind." Now, did I decree that? No sir, I am not that smart. The Supreme Court of the United States decreed that, in 1892! But now it's 1992 and look around. (He looks at the clinic.)

The foundations of our nation have been stolen from us! There is a battle raging between two worldviews and child-killing is the flash point of the battle.

But we will lay down our lives and by our actions say that we will save them all!