

Jonah's Riddle Readers' Theater Demo Guide. (Excerpts adapted from the script.)

Actor 1 or 2 presents the intro.

Welcome to StretchABookClub!

We are going to show you how to turn reading into acting. (note: actors look up when reading, and look at and listen to other actor when other actor is reading.)

Actor1: I'm_____.**Actor2:** and I'm_____.(Actor 3: And I'm.....)

Director's voice/or Mom's

part: The script of Jonah's Riddle is adapted from the story.(Note:

Kids show book cover.) Let's do the scene at Papa's fireside when

Papa is telling Paloma the cowboy's story. **Actor 1:** I'll be Paloma, Jonah, and the Narrator (Or Mom can be Narrator.)

Actor 2: I'll be Papa, the storyteller and Sid. (or 3rd actor can be Sid and/or Jonah.)

Cowboy songs/ Song of the Sea?

Paloma:Papa, tell me the story of Jonah's riddle. PLEASE...just the way you always tell it.

Papa,the storyteller:ONCE UPON A TIME...a cowboy was listening to the wind whispering on the prairie...and as his mare Calliope trotted along, he sang with the wind.

Paloma:Tell the part about the sea.

Papa,the storyteller: One day...Calliope galloped as far as the sea, and the cowboy met a sailor named Sid. He told

Sid about listening to the wind whispering on the prairie...but was listening to the song of the sea.

Paloma:Did Sid sing the song of the sea to the cowboy?

Papa,the storyteller:Sid told the cowboy that he could hear the song of the sea if he listened to the shell...carefully. So...the cowboy put the shell to his ear and listened carefully.

Paloma:I like the part of the story about Jonah.

Papa,the storyteller:I'm coming to that. Sid and the cowboy sailed with the rhythm of the sea beneath their feet until one day...they anchored in the cove of a faraway island... and an islander named Jonah welcomed them ashore.

The cowboy told Jonah about putting the shell to his ear and Sid talked about listening to the song of the sea.

Jonah:Ah! Your song is destined to a fate such as befalls a tree toppled in a deserted forest.

Sid,the sailor:You talk in riddles.

Jonah:(laughs) Ah! A storyteller who sings like a bird can soothe a listener with every word. Sing your song of the sea. Save it from the silence that can befall a tree.

Narrator: So Sid and the cowboy race the boat home to share the songs humming in their heads...to find someone to listen to the stories that have come to them from the wind and the sea...to make them come alive...make them whole.

Paloma:(chimes in, with a little laugh) AND...they will live ever after, happily!

Narrator: What is the Song of the Sea? Listen and you will understand.

Play Song of the Sea as background or at the end.

See audio page, Song of the Sea.

