

Stage Play

The (Other) Meaning of Life

A parody in two acts

by Garrett A. Hughes

The humorous and ribald story of creation as found between the lines of the first three chapters of Genesis.

The Pitch

SCENE

A backstage office in a well-known theater. The PLAYWRIGHT is pitching his latest work to the ARTISTIC DIRECTOR.

PLAYWRIGHT

The play is about freedom of choice. The premise is that without the ability to choose, there is no such thing as human nature. The play starts at the beginning of time, Genesis, the first three chapters. Adam and Eve become the first human beings. It's a comedy... No, I beg to differ, it's not a tragedy... They are not thrown out of the Garden; they walk out of their own free will... Why? Because they would rather choose their own path in life than have it thrust upon them... I know that's not the accepted story. This is an alternative explanation. A lot of institutions have a vested interest in the accepted story, financial interests... No you can't have Sean Connery play God. God is a woman—more like Meryl Streep... Yes, I agree. That role makes her a likely candidate. Anyone running a business in the fashion industry has all the right characteristics... Adam and Eve? Kenneth Branagh and Emma Thompson. In this version Eve is no pushover. In fact Adam is the first one to eat the apple... Luke gets him drunk... Luke is Lucifer's nickname... Connery, yes... Adam is not created from the slime of the earth—I think that's a bad metaphor at best... How? Ah, this is the sticky part, no pun intended. Connery and Streep. It's a compelling scene... yes, to say the least... but Eve's is still the original story—she's a prime rib in more ways than one... I know Adam's is a lot different than the accepted version, but that's how all humans get their start... What do these characters want? Remember, Luke is a horny old man. Josie—that's God—has been celibate from the beginning of time, but is the only game in town... No the minions are automatons—not any better than a machine. Luke tries them all... Why does she do it? Because she finally accepts that life without choice is an empty gesture, and it's the only way to add Luke's free spirit to the mix... Luke is the epitome of human nature without self discipline. It's the only way... What do Adam and Eve want? In reality they want each other, but superficially they are trying to find out how to make children. They can't get a straight answer from their parents... Yeah, just like today... Eventually it's the ducks that give them the final clue... The ending? It's not over yet. I mean—Luke subverts about half the minions. And Adam and Eve propagate Luke's genes as well as Josie's. That's how we get human nature; check out the next chapter in Genesis.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

I'll draw up the contract for your signature today.

BEGINNING.