

# DAUGHTER SC. I

FATHER'S WORKSHOP -- LATER

On the mammal deck before a great furnace, the Father has made a shed for himself.

He fills a small pack with supplies for his trip to the enemy's camp.

His Daughter steps up behind him. She pauses, thinks about leaving when he notices her.

**START**

DAUGHTER

Should I come back?

He is happy to see her.

FATHER

No. Please.

He motions for her to sit. She does.

DAUGHTER

Do you think those men will attack us?

FATHER

When the rain comes, if not before.

DAUGHTER

And the rain?

FATHER

Soon.

Beat.

DAUGHTER

What do you think it will be like?

FATHER

I've imagined it but... to see it, all the death, just or not, it will be...

(he loses the thought)

Are there words?

DAUGHTER

The end of everything.

FATHER

The beginning... This is the beginning.

Daughter chokes up.

FATHER (CONT'D)

What is it?

She still doesn't answer. Father goes to her tenderly.

FATHER (CONT'D)

Men are often stubborn. But whatever he's done, your husband cares for you.

Daughter is surprised Father knows this has to do with her husband.

DAUGHTER

Did he speak with you?

FATHER

I have eyes.

Father waits for more. She takes a breath and starts.

DAUGHTER

My husband needs a woman. A real woman. He should have... all the joys... a family... I can't give any of that to him, can I?

Father doesn't respond.

DAUGHTER (CONT'D)

Can I?

Beat.

DAUGHTER (CONT'D)

I won't deny him those things, even if he wants me to. I won't do it.

Father is taken aback by the great determination with which his daughter speaks. He looks at her.

DAUGHTER (CONT'D)

(softer)

Besides, why would The Creator want a barren girl on his Ark?

Father thinks about this deeply. It's a very good question.

Finally:

FATHER

When we first took you in, I was afraid. I thought you would be a burden.

(MORE)

FATHER (CONT'D)

And I didn't want to watch anyone else ruined by this World. But I was wrong: you were a gift. Don't ever forget how precious you are.

He hugs her. Holds her deeply.

DAUGHTER

I know you'll be going to find wives for my younger two brothers. You should find one for my husband, too.

END