

ANGEL ON MY SOFA

A Comedy

By D. Richard Tucker

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Dave Tucker
PO Box 4032
Kent, WA 98089
(206) 817-4196
Dave@drichtardtucker.com

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Cast of Characters

LYNN, (25 – 35) an obsessive do-gooder
CLYDE, her quirky next door neighbor (25 – 35)
KAREN, Lynn's self-absorbed room mate (25-35)
AZRAEL, the Angel of Death (25 – 35)
URIEL, another angel (25 – 30)
SERAPHINE, another angel (18 – 50)

Setting: Interior of Lynn's midtown apartment.

Time: The Present.

Scene 1	Thursday Morning
Scene 2	Thursday Afternoon
Scene 3	Thursday Evening
Scene 4	Friday Mid-morning
Scene 5	Half an hour later
Scene 6	Friday afternoon

The play is intended to be produced without intermission, but if the producers find it necessary, and intermission may be inserted between Scenes Four and Five.

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Scene One

SETTING: A modern mid-town apartment, showing the living room/dining room combination. We can see the front door and a hallway leading to the bedrooms and bathroom. In the living room is a sofa and chair, a coffee table with yesterday's mail lying on it, magazine rack, and a television facing away from the audience. The dining area shows a small dinette table with chairs. There is a window on one wall and a closet door on another. At rise, the room is empty. SOUND: Loud knocking on front door. There is a pause. Again, loud knocking.

CLYDE (offstage)

Hellooo..... Open up.

LYNN enters from the hallway, dressed in pajamas. She unlocks the door and CLYDE bursts in carrying a coffee cup. He is a "free spirit," dressed sloppily, and has an unrefined and lazy manner.

CLYDE (cont'd)

Hey – what's with the casual attire?

LYNN sits down on the sofa.

LYNN

I'm sleeping in.

CLYDE

You're not you working today?

CLYDE exits into kitchen.

LYNN

I'm going to a rally this morning for the Humane Society Legislative Fund.

CLYDE (offstage)

And the firm pays you -

LYNN

Not exactly.

LYNN yawns and walks over to television, turning it on with the remote.

CLYDE (offstage)

Don't you have work to do...or something like that?

LYNN

It'll be a slow day...the office will be almost empty ...nobody will miss me if I'm at the rally.

CLYDE enters from kitchen, having filled cup.

CLYDE

And this rally... what's it got to do with your law firm?

CLYDE sits and sips coffee

LYNN

Don't bug me, Clyde. It's an important issue. I should be there. As a concerned citizen. Of the world.

Enter KAREN from hallway. She is dressed for work and speaks with the speed and subtlety of a machine gun.

KAREN

(while gathering her things in preparation to leave)
I can't believe it – I overslept. That stray cat outside kept me up all night crying, and when I finally doze off, I sleep right through that damn alarm clock. If I ever get my hands on that furry little thing-

CLYDE

Good morning, Karen.

KAREN

(noticing him for the first time)
When are you going to get your own coffeemaker? This isn't Starbucks. I wish you'd park your lazy ass somewhere else.

CLYDE

I love you, too, Karen.

KAREN

And stop undressing me with your eyes!

CLYDE

Too late. In my mind, you're already naked.

KAREN

(grimaces at the thought, then notices LYNN)
Lynn! Why aren't you dressed? It's seven fifteen! You're going to be late.

CLYDE

Lynn's not going to work.

KAREN

Huh?

LYNN

I'm going to the rally downtown – the Humane Society Leg-

KAREN

Not again!

KAREN exits into kitchen.

KAREN (offstage)

Lynn, you can't skip out on work every time one of these stupid activist-

LYNN

They're not stupid. They're highly regarded as -

CLYDE

Hey, Karen. Could you bring me a bagel?

A bagel comes flying from the kitchen,
landing on the floor. CLYDE picks it up.

KAREN (offstage)

I'm tired of doing your work, Lynn.

CLYDE

Won't you get grief about -

CLYDE takes a bite.

LYNN

Some things are more important than legal briefs.

CLYDE

(with a mouthful)
But what about-

LYNN

It's important to make a contribution – to make the world

LYNN and CLYDE

a better place!

CLYDE

Yeah - heard that before.

Enter KAREN with cup of coffee.

KAREN

Well, you can't just bail out anytime you want to.

LYNN

Actually, Karen-

KAREN

How do I look? I know, marvelous as always. Do you think Stephen will notice me in this blouse? Or should I wear the one with the lace collar? Just the fact that I know he's alive should make him genuinely ecstatic.... lucky man. He's so fortunate to have a crush on me. Now get dressed, Lynn - I'm not going to cover for you again.

LYNN

Karen, please! This is important.

KAREN

It's always important. A rally here, a meeting there. The firm doesn't pay you to be an activist – you're an attorney. Oh goodness - these shoes are just so sassy. You know, if I were a lesbian, I'd be my own favorite sexual fantasy. You need to get ready.

LYNN

No one is going to notice. The world keeps turning - Garrison, Othman, and Dean will churn out lawsuit after lawsuit, but if we don't act now, our grandchildren are going to have to-

KAREN

Lynn, I'm not doing your work for you!

LYNN

Not even the Hoffman case?

KAREN

No.

LYNN

Come on, think about what we can seriously do for the community. Don't you want to be a part of the solution? Women's rights, environmental issues, education reform... There's so much to do.

KAREN

And there's plenty more at the office. Why can't you just be a lawyer? For today, at least.

LYNN

Karen, there's a good reason-

KAREN

I can't think of one good reason for doing your work.

LYNN

I'll give you seven.

KAREN

Seven?

LYNN rapidly recites the list, while CLYDE counts off each of the factors on his fingers.

LYNN

"Efficiency." You know that case better than I do, and could complete it much faster. "Quality." Your quick response will leave you with more time to double check the briefs, and couple that with your expertise, and you have a document far superior to anything I could do. "Team Accomplishment." This document of superior quality will increase the reputation of the firm as a whole, benefiting all employees. "Increased Individual Visibility." The partners can't help but note your contribution, boosting your reputation in the office. "Increased Skill Level." Obviously, completing this brief will only make it easier for you to complete more briefs in the future, "Increased Exposure" which allows you to spend more time in the office within the range of your heart throb Stephen, and "Contribution to Society," making you a major vicarious contributor in helping the Humane Society, which in turn would be of personal benefit to you and all others in the community.

KAREN, annoyed, stares at LYNN.

LYNN (cont'd)

We're setting a path that will eventually lead to the betterment of the world as we know it-

CLYDE

Is "betterment" really a word?-

LYNN

-and you don't want to stand in the way of that progress, do you, Karen? You don't want to be the one who put the brakes on improving for our entire planet.

KAREN

I don't know which is worse – doing your work ...or listening to your line of-

KAREN exits, slamming the front door behind her.

CLYDE

You are evil.

(pause)

Hey – do you have briefcase I can borrow?

LYNN

What for?

CLYDE

I've got a job interview this afternoon. I figure it'll make me look more business-like.

LYNN

I think it's in the closet. Where's your interview?

CLYDE

Chevalier Chocolates. Downtown. Hey, are you related to them at all?

CLYDE heads toward closet.

LYNN

Related to chocolate?

CLYDE

No, Chevalier. Is that your family?

LYNN

No, just coincidence.

CLYDE

(rummaging through closet, tossing items onto the floor)
Too bad. That would be funny.

LYNN

What's even funnier, is that the president, Evelyn Chevalier, has the same name as me.

CLYDE

But your name is "Lynn."

LYNN

Short for "Evelyn." Hey, don't make a mess.

CLYDE

(tossing out contents of closet)
Oh, here it is.

CLYDE emerges from closet with briefcase.

CLYDE (cont'd)

Thanks.

LYNN

No problem. Nice to see you're interested in going to work.

CLYDE

I have to – my career as a blood donor just hasn't panned out.

CLYDE exits. LYNN locks front door and picks up items CLYDE has dropped and returns them to the closet. LYNN exits through hallway. There is a pause. The front door opens under its own power. Standing in the doorway is AZRAEL. He is about thirty, clean cut and dressed in a dark sweater, dark slacks and a long lightweight coat. He steps through the doorway and surveys the apartment interior. The door closes behind him. AZRAEL walks around the living room and stops in front of the closet. The closet door opens and he looks inside. AZRAEL walks away and the closet door closes. AZRAEL stops in front of the kitchen door. The kitchen door swings open and AZRAEL enters the kitchen, the door

closing behind him. LYNN enters from the hallway. LYNN exits into the kitchen, re-emerges with a coffee cup and pot, and stops suddenly. LYNN thinks, looks back toward the kitchen as though something must be wrong, shakes it off, moves to the couch and attempts to pour a cup of coffee from the empty pot. The pot is empty. Annoyed, LYNN puts the cup down on the coffee table and heads back to the kitchen with coffee pot in hand, when she comes face to face with AZRAEL, who is entering from the kitchen. LYNN screams and throws the pot into the air. AZRAEL catches the pot as LYNN hurriedly backs away from him.

LYNN (cont'd)

Who are you? What the hell are you doing in my apartment?

AZRAEL

Are you Evelyn Chevalier?

LYNN

That's none of your business. Who are you? How did you get in here?

AZRAEL

I am a holy messenger – I seek Evelyn Chevalier.

LYNN

Well, you can leave your message with the doorman! Now get the hell out of my apartment!

AZRAEL

It was determined that you may be uncooperative.

LYNN

How did you get in here?

AZRAEL

(puts down coffee pot)
Evelyn Chevalier, I bring to you a sacred message from the Lord God Almighty. You have transgressed in the sight of God and your crimes against humanity can no longer be overlooked. I, Azrael, am the Angel of Death, here to exact the penalty against you and administer the wrath of the Most Holy God.

AZRAEL stretches out his hand.

LYNN

Hold it! Just a ... What are you talking about?

AZRAEL

You cannot run from the vengeance of the Lord. Accept your fate.

LYNN starts to move cautiously toward the phone. AZRAEL relaxes, crosses arms, and waits for LYNN to stop protesting.

LYNN

Okay, um....you're probably right. I've been a very bad girl. I'm sure I deserve this. But I think I'm entitled to at least one phone call.

AZRAEL

Please submit. Resistance will only make this more unpleasant.

AZRAEL takes a note card from his pocket as LYNN dives for the phone and quickly dials. AZRAEL calmly watches her make the phone call.

LYNN

(into phone)
Hello? Hello? Look this is Evelyn Chevalier at 507 Woodbridge, Number 203. I've got an intruder in my apartment and he's some kind of mental case. I think he might even –

LYNN looks shocked, listens, then stares at the phone and hangs up.

LYNN (cont'd)

He said you were the Angel of Death.

AZRAEL

Yes.

LYNN

I don't get it.

AZRAEL

Try again. Dial a number, any number – the message is the same.

LYNN dials again. She listens briefly.

LYNN

(in a daze)
 “Yes, Lynn, he’s really the Angel of Death.”

AZRAEL picks up the television remote,
 takes the phone from LYNN and hangs it
 up.

AZRAEL
 Perhaps the television can convince you.

AZRAEL points the and turns on TV.
 LYNN gasps and points at the screen.

LYNN
 (in a daze)
 Oh my god! “Yes, Lynn, he’s really the Angel of Death.”

AZRAEL picks up an envelope from a stack
 of mail on the coffee table.

AZRAEL
 Your bank statement?

LYNN nods as AZRAEL opens envelope
 and hands the statement to LYNN.

LYNN
 (in a daze)
 “Yes, Lynn, he’s really the Angel of Death.”
 (pause)
 God help me.

AZRAEL
 Too late. The Lord has spoken.

LYNN
 But I didn’t do anything! Honest!

AZRAEL
 The omniscient eye of God Almighty has uncovered your transgressions. Now is your
 time of reckoning.

LYNN
 Wait a minute! Listen to me for -

AZRAEL

The holy wrath of God cannot be postponed.

LYNN

(frightened)

Well, just let me know what's going on here, okay? This is all a bit sudden.

AZRAEL

(annoyed at the delay)

Evelyn Chevalier – your life has been evaluated and your business dealings have been noted as grievous crimes against humanity and blasphemous in the eyes of God Almighty. These truly heinous acts warrant nothing less than immediate extermination, for the good of humanity as a whole.

LYNN

But I'm a good person. What did I do?

AZRAEL

(to himself)

Why do they always play dumb?

(taking a deep breath)

Your support of child labor in West Africa as a major proponent in the production of chocolate has been in itself a reprehensible offense, aiding the enslavement of more than a quarter million children of the Ivory Coast. The proverbial "last straw," however, occurred last night when you admitted to your staff that you have no intention of joining the manufacturers' coalition to end this travesty.

LYNN

Okay, now that just sounds stupid. In any case, I don't have anything to do with the chocolate industry – I'm an attorney.

AZRAEL

You're not the Chief Executive Officer of Chevalier Chocolates?

LYNN

Not even close - that's another Evelyn Chevalier.

AZRAEL

(long pause)

Crap.

AZRAEL examines his note card again. He looks at the card, then at LYNN, then at the card again. He is visibly upset. There is a long uncomfortable pause.

LYNN

So, what's this about African children to make chocolate?

AZRAEL

(distracted, still looking at card)
They work the harvest.

LYNN

And that's not good?

AZRAEL

(as though he's had to explain this several times already)
The children work twelve hour days beaten on a regular basis under-nourished. Many are less than twelve years old.

LYNN

Oh.

AZRAEL

This is embarrassing.

LYNN

So you weren't joking.
(pause)
What does Chevalier Chocolates have to do with this?

AZRAEL

The American chocolate manufacturers are forming a coalition to combat the problem, but Evelyn Chevalier refuses to cooperate.
(changing the subject)
This has already happened twice this year. In January, I came this close to –

LYNN

So what's the big deal – if she doesn't want to cooperate?

AZRAEL

Her lack of involvement could break up the coalition, resulting in another decade of child slavery.

LYNN

What were you going to do?

AZRAEL

I was planning on spontaneous combustion. Assuming that I could find the right Evelyn Chevalier.

LYNN

Good thing for me we had this little talk.

AZRAEL

.....Excuse me.

AZRAEL picks up telephone and waves his hand over it. Sound: Chime.

AZRAEL (cont'd)

(speaking into receiver)

Lucius....Azrael. Guess what?..... No. No. BINGO! I don't care, Lucius, it's your job - that's why you were created. No I don't care about your mean differential extermination sequence average – I can't destroy the wrong person just because it makes your numbers look better. ...Look, I've got eight hundred years seniority on you – I know what I'm talking about. Oh, really? Let me talk to Uriel. No you don't. Let me talk to Uriel. Lucius, if you don't, right now..... ... I'll ...I'll quit. Watch me. If you think you've got a backlog now, just wait until my queue starts filling up. All right, I'm going to count to three, and if you don't have Uriel on the phone, I'm quitting.

(to LYNN)

He does this every time.

(back into phone)

Lucius! One.... Two.....

(quietly)

Three.

SOUND: Chime. AZRAEL hangs up.

LYNN

So....what happens now?

AZRAEL

(a little surprised himself)

That's it. I quit.

LYNN

What?

AZRAEL

I've resigned..... I've had enough.

LYNN

Really?

AZRAEL

Ummm...yeah. Heaven's not the perfect place you'd expect. At least not when it comes to administration. It's a great place to live, but you wouldn't want to work there.

LYNN

It can't be that bad.

AZRAEL

(gives a knowing sigh)

Sounds glamorous, but eventually all the screams of terror start to get to you. My counselor says I should spend more time in a positive, affirming environment.

LYNN

Listen, maybe you should just sit down and relax a while. I can make you breakfast and then when you've calmed down a little, you can look up Evelyn's address and go turn her into charcoal briquettes.

AZRAEL

Sorry. I don't do that anymore.

LYNN

Can you really just quit?

AZRAEL

(shrugs)

It's never happened before. Well, except for Lucifer - but he was terminated for cause.

LYNN

Sowhat now?

AZRAEL

Umm..... I ...uh.....I...uh.....

(noticing LYNN's discomfort)

Oh, I'm sorry, don't mind me - I can entertain myself. You just go about your business.

LYNN

I was ...headed downtown.

AZRAEL

Fine. I can stay here. And watch TV. Is that okay?

AZRAEL turns on TV and sits.

LYNN

You're going to hang out in my apartment?

Where else would I go?
AZRAEL

LYNN pauses to consider his plight. She has no answer. LYNN looks at AZRAEL, who is now caught up in the TV show.

LYNN
..... Sure... make yourself at home.

LYNN exits through hallway. Blackout.

Scene Two

Lights up on CLYDE and AZRAEL sitting on the sofa, eating popcorn from a bowl placed between them and watching television.

So..... Angel of Death, huh?
CLYDE

Yeah.
AZRAEL

That's cool.
CLYDE

Yeah.
AZRAEL

How do you get a job like that, anyhow?
CLYDE

I was appointed. By God.
AZRAEL

Nice.
CLYDE
(pause)
Been doing that long?

Six thousand years.
AZRAEL

CLYDE

That's some job security.

AZRAEL

(pause)

So do these people ever get off the island?

CLYDE

No, they canceled the show before they could get rescued.

AZRAEL

Too bad.

CLYDE

I think it's like the most popular re-run ever.

AZRAEL

You know a lot about this stuff, huh?

CLYDE

Oh, yeah. To me, classic television is like a religion— no offense. I believe that the answers to all of life's questions are contained somewhere in a re-run. Last year I went all the way to Washington, DC just to see the Jeffersons memorial. Not exactly what I'd expected.

(pause)

So ...umm....what's heaven like?

AZRAEL

It's nice.

CLYDE

Cool.

(pause)

What about God? What's He like? He is a "he" isn't He?

AZRAEL

Yeah. He's cool.

CLYDE

I knew it! I knew that God would be cool!

(pause)

Oh, This is my favorite part – where Gilligan gets scared and runs, and his feet move so fast that he digs a hole in the sand and gets buried up to his neck.

CLYDE and AZRAEL watch for a moment
and then burst into laughter.

CLYDE (cont'd)

Can you really do that? Dig a hole by running really fast?

AZRAEL

I don't think so.

CLYDE

Hey, how come you don't have wings?

AZRAEL

Just a myth. Do you realize how inconvenient it would be to have wings?

CLYDE

Yeah, I guess. I mean Superman doesn't have wings and he can fly.

AZRAEL

Exactly.

CLYDE

(pause)
Do you have a cape?

AZRAEL

Don't need one.

CLYDE

So could you do something magic? You know, like a miracle or something?

AZRAEL

What do you want to see?

CLYDE

Umm...how about a plague of locusts or something?

AZRAEL

How about this?

SOUND: sound of harp.

CLYDE

How about what?

AZRAEL

Now you're invisible.

CLYDE

Really?

AZRAEL

Yep.

CLYDE

And no one can see me?

AZRAEL

No.

CLYDE

Cool. Hold it, how do I know I'm invisible?

AZRAEL

Just wait. When Lynn comes in she won't be able to see you.

CLYDE

But Lynn is at-

SOUND: Keys turning in lock. LYNN enters with bag of groceries. AZRAEL looks at CLYDE and puts his finger to his lips, signifying "Quiet." LYNN puts the groceries on the coffee table and picks up the remote, turning off the television. CLYDE gestures to AZRAEL, excited about being invisible. LYNN places the remote down and picks up the groceries. CLYDE presses button on remote to turn TV on. LYNN turns to look at television. LYNN reaches for remote. CLYDE picks up the remote and waves it in front of her face. LYNN screams and tosses the groceries. AZRAEL catches the groceries. Seeing this, LYNN screams again and makes a break for the kitchen.

CLYDE

(whispering)
She really can't see us, can she?

AZRAEL shakes his head "no." LYNN peeks through kitchen door and then enters, looking around warily. CLYDE motions for

AZRAEL to do something to scare LYNN,
but AZRAEL shakes his head “no.”
SOUND: sound of harp signifying
invisibility is gone.

AHHHHH!
LYNN

AHHHH!
CLYDE

What are you doing?
LYNN

Azrael was teaching me about invisibility.
CLYDE

LYNN
(to AZRAEL)
Don't do that! Look, you can't just come here and play with us like this. This is my home and I should be able to see everything in it!

CLYDE sits and turns on TV with remote.

AZRAEL
I'm sorry, we didn't intend to frighten you.

LYNN
How would you feel if you woke up one morning with the Angel of Death hanging out in your house?

AZRAEL
Actually, that's very common for me.

LYNN
Well, not me! You're a lousy guest, you know that?

LYNN carries groceries into kitchen.

AZRAEL
I'm sorry.

CLYDE
Hey, Azrael – could you make me invisible tomorrow morning so I can check out the girls while they're in the shower?

I can hear you.

LYNN (off stage)

(reassuringly)
I would never do that.

AZRAEL

Not this again.

CLYDE

CLYDE changes channels.

AZRAEL

What was that?

LYNN enters.

CLYDE

News bulletin. I saw it earlier.

CLYDE changes back to the original channel.

LYNN

Some government take-over in Africa. Looks like their chances for democracy have been completely squashed.

AZRAEL

General Adjatay Kaunadodo?

LYNN

Yeah.

CLYDE

How did you-

AZRAEL

He was next on my list.

CLYDE

Oh.

AZRAEL

Of course, it's not my concern. Not any more.

LYNN

(producing AZRAEL's stack of index cards)
I think you need to get back to work.

AZRAEL

Not me. I want to be just like Gilligan - secluded from the rest of the universe... just like the Beverly Hillbillies - removed from every-day cares ...just like Mayberry - no worries, no hassles, no fire and brimstone.

LYNN

There are some serious problems here.

AZRAEL

Not my concern.

LYNN

But some of these people – no, all of these people are completely despicable. It's obvious why they're on your list.

AZRAEL

No longer my list.

LYNN

Well, I don't think it's very responsible to turn your back on humanity.

Enter KAREN through front door.

KAREN

Lynn, I could strangle you – I had to stay late to finish –
(seeing AZRAEL)

Hello.

(turning on the charm, walks over and holds out her hand)

Hi, my name is Karen. I don't believe we've met.

AZRAEL

(shaking her hand)

I'm Azrael.

KAREN

Azrael. What an interesting name. So, what good fortune brought you into our lives today?

AZRAEL

Actually, it was mistaken identity.

KAREN

Oh? Well, some mistakes just ought to be made more often.

LYNN

Karen, can I speak to you for a minute?

KAREN

Lynn, I don't want to be rude and leave our guest.

LYNN

It's important.

KAREN

Not now, Lynn.

AZRAEL

I'll be all right.

KAREN

Well.....all right. But don't go away.

LYNN and KAREN exit into kitchen.
CLYDE goes to door to eavesdrop.

CLYDE

Wait for it...

AZRAEL

What?

CLYDE

Lynn will tell Karen about you.

AZRAEL watches CLYDE who has paused,
waiting for KAREN's response.

KAREN (offstage)

(yelling)
WHAT?

CLYDE

I knew it.

CLYDE returns and sits next to AZRAEL
who is watching television.

AZRAEL

So why is Sergeant Carter always so angry with Gomer?

CLYDE

I think it has something to do with his own insecurities about being a tough-as-nails leatherneck unable to deal with the backwoods naivete of a lovable bumpkin.

KAREN pokes her head through the door, looks. AZRAEL and CLYDE turn to see her. KAREN and quickly withdraws into the kitchen.

CLYDE

(pause)

Hey, Lynn said you could talk on the phone to heaven.

AZRAEL

Yeah.

CLYDE

So is that in a different area code or something? Do you need to dial something special?

AZRAEL shakes his head, and picks up the phone. SOUND: chime.

AZRAEL

Of, course, it doesn't work with humans.

CLYDE

It would be cool to talk to Heaven.

AZRAEL

(into phone)

Lucius. Azrael. Kiss my grits.

SOUND: Chime. AZRAEL hangs up.

AZRAEL (cont'd)

(explaining)

Voicemail.

Enter KAREN followed by LYNN.

KAREN

(cautiously)

So, Lynn tells me you're not from around here.

AZRAEL

Not exactly.

KAREN

Well, this is a bit of a surprise for us – we're not accustomed to having visitors of your ...stature....are we supposed to call you anything special? You know, some kind of title – do we need to bow down or something?

AZRAEL

That's not necessary.

KAREN

Well, let me say that we feel quite honored to have you here.

AZRAEL

Um....thank you.

CLYDE leans over and whispers in
AZRAEL's ear when KAREN isn't looking.

KAREN

I'm sure that the list of those who've entertained angels is rather small, especially in this neighborhood,

SOUND: sound of harp. LYNN reacts to
CLYDE and AZRAEL's disappearance, but
KAREN has her back to them and does not
notice.

KAREN (cont'd)

and we feel very fortunate that you have chosen us to be your hosts...or hostesses....or
ummmmm

KAREN turns and cannot see them.

KAREN (cont'd)

- AHHH! Where'd they go?

LYNN

They're probably invisible. They did that to me, too.

CLYDE can hardly contain himself
suppressing laughter.

KAREN

They're still here?

LYNN

We just can't see them.

KAREN

Make them come back. I don't like this.

CLYDE lifts up KAREN's skirt.

KAREN (cont'd)

AHHH! Now cut that out!

KAREN pushes skirt down and runs a few feet away. CLYDE laughs out loud.
SOUND: Harp sound.

KAREN (cont'd)

(to CLYDE)

You creep! Don't you ever do that again!

AZRAEL

I'm sorry – that wasn't planned.

KAREN

(awkwardly)

Oh, well, don't worry about it. Just a little harmless fun, right, Lynn? We wouldn't want to upset the Death Angel, now would we?

CLYDE

Hey, that was great, Az-Man.

AZRAEL

Dude, that's not cool.

CLYDE

I thought it was hilarious.

KAREN

Shut up, you.

(to AZRAEL)

Umm...you know ... I didn't expect you to look quite like this. I always thought you'd be wearing kind of a heavy black robe, with some kind of skeleton-looking face and have one of those garden tools in your hand or something.

AZRAEL

Like the Grim Reaper?

KAREN

Yes!

AZRAEL

Sorry, I'm the Angel of Death.

CLYDE

Azrael is a Malakim, a living instrument of vengeance and the wrath of God. He's not "Death." Death is a state of being for humans, marking the passage from this life to the afterlife - not a form of being. That whole Grim Reaper thing is just a myth.

LYNN and KAREN give CLYDE a surprised look.

CLYDE (cont'd)

I asked him about that already.

KAREN

Wellthat's good to know. Ummm..... I'm just going to change clothes now.

(to LYNN)

Could you...um...keep him occupied while I do that?

AZRAEL

We'll be right here.

KAREN

Great. Excuse me.

KAREN exits through hall.

LYNN

Clyde – what about your interview?

CLYDE

Oh, that's right.

(grabbing briefcase from behind couch)

Here's your briefcase.

AZRAEL

How did it go?

CLYDE

Not so hot – they didn't believe me when I told them I was a personal friend of Evelyn Chevalier. So I picked up some chocolate on my way out-

CLYDE opens briefcase and pours out several pounds of individually wrapped chocolates onto the coffee table.

LYNN

Clyde!

CLYDE

I figured that's almost a full day's pay there, anyhow. But as they say, "Man cannot live on chocolate alone..."

AZRAEL gives CLYDE a look.

CLYDE (cont'd)

Sorry - didn't mean to misquote...or anything.

LYNN looks through index cards.

LYNN

You're really not going back to work?

AZRAEL

Hey, I retired. I've been doing this for six thousand years. No credit, no recognition, no appreciation. I'm through.

LYNN

But you can't turn your back on mankind like that. The thing is – you have an important role to play.

AZRAEL

The thing is – I'm not doing it. You people have been destroying each other for thousands of years, and then expect me to come clean up the worst of your problems.

(gesturing toward the index cards)

White Slavery, narcotics rings, genocide....You made this mess... so, live with it. Come on, Clyde, let's take a look at "I Dream of Genie" web site you were talking about.

AZRAEL and CLYDE exit through front door. LYNN exits into kitchen. KAREN enters from hallway. Seeing no one, she cautiously walks around the room, quickly turning behind her to see if anyone is there. LYNN enters from kitchen with a bowl and begins to put candy into bowl.

LYNN

Leaving already?

KAREN

Where are they?

LYNN

Next door on the computer. The next thing will probably be “Guitar Hero.”

KAREN

(noticing the candy)
Oh!

KAREN begins to sample chocolate candy.

LYNN

He just doesn't get it.

KAREN

What's this stuff about African kids harvesting chocolate?

LYNN

It pretty much equates to child slavery Just to keep the price of harvesting cocoa to a minimum.

KAREN

That's just horrid.
(taking another chocolate)
And this Evelyn Chevalier could stop it?

LYNN

But she won't - so he came down to make a shish kebab out of her.

KAREN

Maybe it's not such a bad thing he quit. He can't just go around vaporizing people.

LYNN

Even if they're mass murderers?

KAREN

Mass murderers are people, too, you know. I think we should let him stay as long as he wants – then he can't do any harm.

LYNN

What about the rest of mankind?

KAREN

Whatever. Look, I've got to go - I'm meeting Maureen down at the Labyrinth. It's "Ladies Night." You want to come along?

LYNN

No, I'm just going to stay here and angel-sit.

KAREN

Yeah, let's keep him around for a while. You know I've always wanted a date with an angel.

KAREN exits. Blackout.

Scene Three

That evening. Lights are dim. AZRAEL and CLYDE are again sitting on the couch, eating chocolates and watching television. There is the sound of a cat crying outside, which they ignore. LYNN is sitting nearby with a laptop computer and AZRAEL's index cards. CLYDE reaches over and picks up the phone, holds it to his ear and then hangs up disappointed. CLYDE repeats the procedure.

AZRAEL

Give it up. You're human – you can't do that.

CLYDE

It's the same phone you used.

AZRAEL

Doesn't work that way.

CLYDE again picks up the phone, listens intently and hangs up. LYNN shows card to AZRAEL.

LYNN

What about this one?

AZAREL

(checking card)
Death squads Latin America...

Oh! Here he is. Ready?

Ready.

They stare intently at the television for a moment.

LUCY, I'M HOME.

They burst into laughter and bang knuckles. They continue watching the program.

What about this one?

Um...extermination of pygmies.

What?

You're kidding, right?

No, it's very serious...big problem in the Ituri Province.

So what are you gonna do about it?

Nothing.

You're starting to piss me off.

KAREN enters from hallway in pajamas, and goes to the window.

KAREN

(screaming)
Shut up, you mangy cat! I'm trying to sleep, damn it!

KAREN moves to couch and sits.

LYNN

Tough night?

KAREN

Damn cat – every night.

AZRAEL

Maybe I can help.

AZRAEL rises and looks out window.

AZRAEL (cont'd)

The little gray one down there?

KAREN

Yeah – little cat, big lungs.

AZRAEL points out the window. A bright flash can be seen through the window.
SOUND: A hissing noise. The crying stops.

AZRAEL

Problem solved.

CLYDE

Holy smokes.

AZRAEL returns to sofa. CLYDE and LYNN run to the window and look out.

KAREN

Oh my god!

CLYDE

You nuked the cat!

LYNN

How can you do that? You just killed it!

CLYDE
Pretty cool, huh?

LYNN
It was just an innocent little animal!

AZRAEL
But it's been keeping Karen awake.

KAREN
That doesn't mean you should kill it.

AZRAEL
You've been losing sleep for nearly six weeks. All because of that cat.

KAREN
Oh my god. How did you know that?

CLYDE
Karen....duh! He works for God.

LYNN
Well, you can't just go around killing animals! That's despicable!

CLYDE
Maybe you should have just sent it on a vacation or something until Karen caught up on her beauty rest.

LYNN
That's not what I mean! What about animal rights?

AZRAEL
Karen has been losing sleep because of the cat, but when I remove it, you complain?

KAREN
Well, I I didn't expect you to murder it.

LYNN
What gives you the right to kill things?

AZRAEL
It's my job.

LYNN
WAS your job, Angel Boy.

AZRAEL

So, it's all right for me to eliminate Evelyn Chevalier, a real flesh and blood person, but not a homeless cat which keeps you awake at night?

LYNN

Well, instead of frying the cat, why don't you take out somebody on your list? Somebody important?

AZRAEL

I told you.

LYNN

Yeah, I know – you quit!

LYNN exits angrily into hallway.

KAREN

You're going to get yourself in trouble.

CLYDE nudges AZRAEL. SOUND: Harp, signifying the boys are invisible.

KAREN (cont'd)

Ahhh! Now cut that out. This invisible thing is not funny.

SOUND: Harp, signifying the boys are again visible.

KAREN (cont'd)

(fuming)

You are just so close to making me mad. I –

SOUND: Harp, invisibility is back on.

KAREN (cont'd)

Ahh! Stop it.

KAREN exits through hallway. SOUND: Harp – invisibility is off.

CLYDE

Let's see what's left in the fridge.

CLYDE and AZRAEL exit through kitchen.
KAREN returns and begins to address the
empty sofa.

KAREN

Now look, Mr. Holier-Than-Everybody, I don't get it – maybe I'm the only sane one
around here, but you can't do this. I don't care if you are an angel. Or that you're really
cute - I'm not talking to you, Clyde – this is just crazy!

Enter AZRAEL and CLYDE from kitchen
drinking from soda cans. They stand behind
KAREN and watch her talking to the sofa.

KAREN (cont'd)

It's been very nice to meet you, but this has gone way too far, and your making Lynn
upset.. So would you please stop this nonsense? And don't kill anything else. All right?

AZRAEL

All right.

KAREN

(startled)
Ah! Don't do that!

CLYDE

You know, Karen, you're talking to the Angel of Death here. He could turn you into a
crustacean or something.

KAREN

This isn't funny anymore. Now stop it!

AZRAEL

Why are you so angry?

KAREN

Why am I angry? Gee, I don't know. Maybe I don't like invisible people looking up my
skirt. Maybe I don't like having an unemployed angel camping out in my living room.
Maybe I like you turning a stray cat into a grease spot on the sidewalk. Is there
something wrong with that? Huh, is there?

AZRAEL

You know, Karen, you remind me a lot of someone else.

KAREN

Oh? Who?

Cleopatra. AZRAEL

Really? KAREN

Wow. CLYDE

AZRAEL
Yes, Cleopatra was one of the most beautiful women in history.

KAREN
(surprised by the flattery)
Oh.... Well..... that's very kind

AZRAEL
She was also the biggest psycho-bitch that ever lived.

CLYDE
Oooo. Score one for the Az-man.

AZRAEL
Let's go, Clyde. I need some fresh air.

AZRAEL and CLYDE head for front door.

KAREN
You can't talk about me that way!

CLYDE opens the door.

AZRAEL
I can't? Are you sure? After all, I am the Angel of Death!

AZRAEL stretches out his hand and
KAREN screams, ducks down and covers
her face as if expecting a lightning bolt.

KAREN
Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!

AZRAEL pauses for a moment.

AZRAEL (cont'd)
(to CLYDE)

Retired, that is.

AZRAEL and CLYDE laugh as they exit.
Blackout.

Scene Four

The next afternoon. CLYDE and AZRAEL
are sitting on the sofa watching TV.

AZRAEL
When does Bob Newhart come on?

CLYDE
Not for another hour.

LYNN enters from the front door with a box
of personal items from the office

CLYDE (cont'd)
What's up?

LYNN
(trying to stifle her anger)
I lost my job.

CLYDE
You got fired?

AZRAEL
What happened?

LYNN
Mr. Othman accused me of neglecting my duties.

CLYDE
No surprise there.

LYNN
What?!

CLYDE
Well, ...I mean, you get Karen to do your work for you, you're constantly skipping out
on the job.....

LYNN

I am a damn good lawyer, Clyde. I can work my way around the courtroom like it's nobody's business. In fact, those were the exact words that Mr. Othman used.

AZRAEL

And yet he fired you.

LYNN

They just don't get it. You can't make the world a better place if you're holed up in an office.

CLYDE

Hey, that's pretty funny here we are – three of us – all unemployed. An angel, an attorney, and aum....

LYNN

(pause)
Right.

KAREN enters the front door.

KAREN

Lynn, are you all right?

LYNN

Yeah, I'll be okay.

KAREN

I'm really sorry.

LYNN

Hey, it's not your fault – Othman just doesn't like me.

KAREN

Lynn, I don't think-

LYNN

Don't worry, Karen, I can get another job. There are lots of firms in town.

KAREN

I just think that-

LYNN

It's okay, Karen – all right?

KAREN

Fine.

KAREN exits down hallway.

CLYDE

Don't worry, Lynn, unemployment isn't that bad. Azrael likes it.

LYNN

Azrael needs to go back to work.

AZRAEL

So it's okay for you to be unemployed, but not me?

LYNN

You wouldn't understand – you had a great job.

AZRAEL

It's not a great job - It's a real pain.

LYNN

But you were doing something important.

AZRAEL

Everything's relative. It's not as much fun as you think. Nobody ever gives you credit for all the hard work. No pat on the back, no compliments about a particular pillar of fire or lightning bolt or anything. Sure, everybody needs you, but once the smoke clears, you're quickly forgotten.

CLYDE

Sounds like the Az-man is suffering from a little appreciation deficit.

AZRAEL

I thought it would be glamorous, but after a few thousand years, every one takes you for granted.

LYNN

So you weren't always the Angel of Death?

AZRAEL

No. I mean, that's why I was created, but I didn't start out that way.

CLYDE

What were you before – the Angel of Really Bad Illnesses?

AZRAEL

I was a messenger, just like lots of other angels.. Not very sophisticated, but it was a start. And I had to be extra good at it, too – you know, when the other angels know you’re destined for a big promotion, they tend to nitpick about the way you do things.

CLYDE

That must have been humiliating.

AZRAEL

A little at first, yeah, , but God took me aside and said – well, you know God – He’s pretty influential. He told me straight out – this was my destiny, I had a job to do, then and there. He said....um...., “In order to become what you were meant to be, you must be the best at what you are right now.” So I became a great messenger. A couple hundred years later, three more promotions...and I became-

CLYDE

The Angel of Death.

AZRAEL

Right.

LYNN

Only now you’re a couch potato. Which is practically criminal.

AZRAEL

Criminal? I’m not doing anything.

LYNN

And that’s criminal negligence.

AZRAEL

How do you get that?

LYNN

Do your realize how many lives are in your hands...how many people are endangered right now – all because of you?

AZRAEL

Oh, come on-

LYNN

Think about it – innocents are being murdered by death squads in Central America, Pygmies are being hunted in the Congo, and Evelyn Chevalier is facilitating child slavery in Africa. Meanwhile, Azrael, the angel who can stop all this, is sitting on his ass watching The Brady Bunch.

AZRAEL

Come on, Clyde – let's go.

LYNN

Where're ya headed? Going on a guilt trip?

AZRAEL

I have no reason to feel guilty.

LYNN

If I got you into a courtroom, Bucko, that jury would crucify you!

AZRAEL stops and stares at LYNN for a moment and then exits with CLYDE out the front door.

LYNN

That was probably in poor taste.

KAREN enters wearing "lounge around the house" attire.

KAREN

What happened?

LYNN

That damn angel.

KAREN

Where's he going?

LYNN

Don't know – don't care.

KAREN

I don't think it's a good thing to let him out of our sight. He might cause trouble.

LYNN

So? He's not the Angel of Death anymore – he quit.

KAREN

But he may get mad and scorch somebody.

LYNN

So what?

KAREN

Lynn, you need to do something. He scared me half to death last night. Somebody might get hurt.

LYNN

That's the problem, Karen. He's not hurting people. And there are people who ought to be hurt.

KAREN

What?

LYNN

Since Azrael's not doing his job, lots of problems out there aren't being taken care of.
(showing her the index cards)
All of these people were supposed to be exterminated- for the good of mankind. But now, it's not happening.

KAREN

And what can we do about it? You can't go to Africa and wipe out the Pygmy killers.

LYNN

(realization setting in)
No, but there is one person that I can take care of.

KAREN

What?

LYNN

Get dressed, Karen. We've got work to do.

KAREN

What are you-

LYNN

Just get dressed.

LYNN goes to the closet and rummages around.

KAREN

What are you thinking?

LYNN emerges with a tennis racquet in her hand.

LYNN

We're going to go kill Evelyn Chevalier.

That's ridiculous!

KAREN

LYNN

(looking at racquet)
You're right – we need something heavier.

LYNN tosses racquet back into closet and
closes door.

LYNN (cont'd)

Do we have any blunt heavy objects ... something to beat her with?

KAREN

Lynn, you can't do this!

LYNN

Yes, I can. And you're going to help.

KAREN

No, I'm not! You can force me to finish your legal briefs, but murder is out of the question.

LYNN

We have to do this.

KAREN

It's against the law.

LYNN

Some things are bigger than the law.

KAREN

Lynn, I can't kill anybody.

LYNN

You don't have to – I just need you to keep a look out while I pulverize her.

KAREN

Lynn.....please.....

LYNN

Fine! I'll do it myself.
(headed for the hallway)
What do we have that's really heavy?

LYNN exits through hall.

KAREN

I can't believe you.

KAREN sits on sofa and buries face in hands. The front door opens under its own power and URIEL is standing in the doorway. He is dressed in street clothes, similar to AZRAEL, but appears to be slightly younger. He enters the room and the door closes behind him. KAREN sits up as she hears the door close. URIEL approaches KAREN and stretches out his hand.

URIEL

Evelyn Chevalier, I bring to you a sacred message from the Lord God Almighty.

KAREN

(turning, surprised)

Oh, no.

URIEL

You have transgressed in the sight of God and your crimes against humanity can no longer be overlooked. I am Uriel, the Angel of Death, here to exact the penalty against you and administer the wrath of the Most Holy God.

KAREN

(calling out)

Lynn! Lynn! There's somebody here to see you.

BLACKOUT.

Scene Five

LYNN and KAREN are sitting on the sofa.
URIEL is pacing back and forth. There is a
long pause.

URIEL

So what did he do then?

LYNN

He said “I quit,” hung up the phone, sat down and watched TV.

URIEL

You allowed him to stay here?

LYNN

Sure.

KAREN

Listen, I really need to go to bed-

URIEL

So you gave him sanctuary-

LYNN

I didn't give him anything – I just said he could stay and watch TV. Is he in trouble?

URIEL

It depends on what he's done.

KAREN

What's going to happen to Azrael?

URIEL

This is a private matter and not intended for human involvement.

LYNN

Well, are you going to go take care of Evelyn Chevalier, like you said?

URIEL

That's none of your concern.

LYNN

I think we – look, you stay here – I’ll go over to Clyde’s and see where Azrael is, okay?
Karen, why don’t you stay here with Uriel.

KAREN

What?

LYNN

(subtly signaling that KAREN should stall him)
You know – stay and keep him company.

KAREN

Oh, um, ...yeahsure.

LYNN exits into hallway. KAREN tries
stalling URIEL, annoying him to no end.

KAREN

(long pause)
So..... what exactly does an angel of death do anyhow?

URIEL

He travels across the universe and kills people.

KAREN

That sounds like a fun job..... Have you killed any one I might know?

URIEL

Do you know Evelyn Chevalier?

KAREN

Oh, that’s right. I’d forgotten about her. Did you-

URIEL

Not yet, but she’s next on the list.

KAREN

So, um....How do you plan to do it?

URIEL

Spontaneous combustion.

KAREN

Oh, well of course..... I would expect something fancy like that. And I suppose that giving her cancer or a tumor might appear... too coincidental. And slow. And how does that work?

URIEL

She would reduced to a pile of ashes. Maybe I should go.

KAREN

(stopping him)
So, tell me....um.....what's heaven like?

URIEL

I really can't talk about it.

KAREN

Why not? Was it an unpleasant experience for you?

URIEL

I can't discuss it.

KAREN

You know sometimes that's really the best therapy.... To talk about your problems. Release some of the pent-up emotional duress.

URIEL

I don't have duress. I just can't talk about it.

KAREN

Oh, so you're not allowed to talk about it – what, is that some kind “I'm an angel and I'm sworn to secrecy” kind of thing?

URIEL

I can't discuss it.

KAREN

I know, that's quite fascinating. Go ahead, tell me more.

URIEL

I can't talk to you!

KAREN

Oh, sure you can. I'm a good listener. I make a wonderful confidante. Go ahead - open up. You'll feel better.

URIEL

You know, after meeting you, the Fall of Man no longer seems quite so implausible.

KAREN

Oh, I can tell you, many a man has fallen for me.

URIEL

I think I'd better go look for Azrael.

KAREN

No! I mean, don't go now, or you might miss him.

URIEL

Are you sure he's coming back?

KAREN

Oh, but of course. I'm certain he can't stay away for long. I probably shouldn't say this, but... I think he has a crush on me.

URIEL

Right.

KAREN

I admit, I thought he was rather cute, too. That whole "Angel of Death" thing is so very...you know tantalizing. Actually, I find the same qualities in you – that strong, silent, holier-than-thou attitude - really quite charming. And that brooding obsession with death is just such aturn on. Dark, mysterious, in a kind of Christopher Walken - like. You know, you probably wouldn't think this, seeing how attractive and self-assured I am, but there was a time when I actually considered....you know...taking my own life.

URIEL

Really? How did you plan on doing that?

KAREN

What do you mean?

URIEL

What method were you going to use? To kill yourself.

KAREN

I wasdoes it really matter?

URIEL

I'm just trying to visualize it.

KAREN

Oh. Well.... Anyhow, I didn't do it after all.

URIEL

Any regrets?

KAREN

Ummm... no. I just thought that there would be a lot of people who would miss me. Family Friends..... I didn't want to hurt them by taking myself out of their lives.

URIEL

You shouldn't be so concerned with what others think. Some things you just have to do for yourself.

KAREN

But isn't it sad when someone takes such drastic measures?

URIEL

You know what they say: "Life - it's not for everybody."

KAREN

Oh, you! You're such a teaser. If I didn't know better, I'd say you were trying to talk me into suicide.

URIEL

And why would I do that?

KAREN

I don't know – maybe you work on commission.

URIEL

Your suicide would be more a matter of public service.

KAREN

That's That's..... Was that supposed to be an insult? What the hell is your problem? You come into our home, disrupt everything, and then you insult me? You're nothing but a supernatural goody-goody with a stick up his butt! I'll have you know, your friend Azrael was quite smitten with me. He said I was one of the most beautiful women in the world.

URIEL

Compared you to Cleopatra, didn't he?

KAREN

Now wait a min -

URIEL

I'm tired of waiting. I'm going to go find Azrael.

KAREN

No, don't go. Please?

URIEL

Why are you so intent on keeping me here?

KAREN

Oh, no reason, it's just that I.....I.... I might be tempted to kill myself again.

URIEL

That's a risk I'll just have to take.

The door opens under its own power and
URIEL exits, with the door closing behind
him.

KAREN

Are there any angels out there who aren't assholes?

Enter CLYDE.

CLYDE

Oh my god! What a night!

KAREN

Where have you been?

CLYDE

I've been running around town with Azrael. That guy sure knows how to have fun.

KAREN

Did he hurt anybody?

CLYDE

No, but he scared this cab driver half to death. The guy was trying to drive away and Azrael made the car levitate about six inches off the ground. The driver just about freaked.

KAREN

But he didn't incinerate anyone did he?

CLYDE

No. We just went to the late night sale at Barringers' Bookstore.

KAREN

Did you see Uriel?

CLYDE

Who's Uriel?

KAREN

Where's Azrael now?

CLYDE

I don't know – I left him half an hour ago. Who's Uriel?

KAREN

They sent another angel to chase him down.

CLYDE

Another one? Here?

KAREN

He's out looking for Azrael.

The door opens on its own power.
AZRAEL enters.

AZRAEL

You'll never believe what we found.

CLYDE

(examining the door)
That is so cool! How you do that?

CLYDE jumps out of the way as the door
closes itself.

AZRAEL

(to LYNN)
Look at this! The "My Favorite Martian" Collector's Scrapbook. "Complete with behind-the-scene photos of your favorite episodes. A must for every 'My Favorite Martian' fan."

AZRAEL sits, places the book on the coffee
table and leafs through it.

KAREN

Where have you been?

AZRAEL

Oh, here's the best part – this shows how they made those antennae come out of Ray Walston's head. Ooo! Here's the mockup of his flying saucer!

CLYDE

They had a great sale.

AZRAEL

And look here:

AZRAEL produces another book.

AZRAEL (cont'd)

The Dick Van Dyke Show coffee table book, with a synopsis guide for every episode, plus special chapters on Mary Tyler Moore, Morey Amsterdam, Rose Marie, and even Jerry Van Dyke. That's his brother. Can you believe it?

CLYDE

Pretty cool, huh?

KAREN

What is this? You guys are out there raiding used bookstores, and in the meantime, Lynn and I are trying to stall Uriel.

AZRAEL

(shocked)
Uriel? Is he here?

KAREN

And he's looking for you.

AZRAEL

Oh.

CLYDE

Is that a problem?

AZRAEL

What did he say?

KAREN

Not much. He's a jerk.

CLYDE

What are you going to do?

AZRAEL

I'm not sure. I need to know why he's here.

KAREN

He came down to roast Evelyn Chevalier – isn't it obvious?

CLYDE

Does that make him the Angel of Death?

AZRAEL

...I'm not sure.

KAREN

Well, somebody better figure this out quickly, folks, 'cause it's almost my bedtime.

CLYDE

Are you going back to heaven or where ever you-

AZRAEL

I'd rather not. If I have to leave..... I may be exterminated for rebellion.

CLYDE

They'll whack you?

KAREN

Oh, please! What is it with you people?

The door opens under its own power and
URIEL enters.

AZRAEL

Uriel.

URIEL

Azrael.

CLYDE

Uh-oh.

AZRAEL and URIEL circle slowly in a
standoff, reminiscent of an old gunfighter
movie.

AZRAEL

I heard you were here.

URIEL

I am.

AZRAEL

I figured you've been looking for me.

URIEL

I have.

AZRAEL

I guess you're here about my resignation.

URIEL

You could say that.

AZRAEL

Well, before you go any farther, I think you should know that these humans had nothing to do with it.

URIEL

So?

AZRAEL

I'm just saying that I'm the one who's responsible for this situation, not them.

URIEL

They won't get anything more than they deserve.

AZRAEL

Well, I think you should show them a little mercy.

CLYDE

I'll concur with that.

AZRAEL

You know I have sanctuary, right?

URIEL

I heard.

CLYDE

What's sanctuary?

URIEL

Because a human invited Azrael, he's protected as long as he stays here.

CLYDE

You mean....Lynn?

KAREN

Can't they drag you back?

AZRAEL

It's forbidden according to the rules of Sanctuary – it goes back to Genesis 19.

(to URIEL)

So what do you want?

URIEL

I just wanted to see if you'd return. You need to get over this little tantrum of yours and get back to your calling. Before things get out of hand.

AZRAEL

You mean -?

URIEL

Hurry up and we get back before anyone notices you're gone.

KAREN

Well, isn't that encouraging.

URIEL

Lucius told me what happened.

AZRAEL

Um..... I just –

The phone rings and KAREN jumps.
KAREN answers the phone.

KAREN

Hello?.....Yes.....I beg your pardon?.....Oh, my god – okay. Thank you.

KAREN hangs up.

CLYDE

Who was that?

KAREN

The police. Lynn was just arrested.

CLYDE

For what?

KAREN

Trespassing. At Evelyn Chevalier's downtown condo.

AZRAEL and URIEL give each other a look
and rush to the door. The door opens on its

own power and they rush out. The door closes.

CLYDE

Wow, just like Starsky and Hutch.

KAREN

Maybe you should go with them, Huggy Bear.

CLYDE exits through the front door.
KAREN sits on the sofa, stunned. The door opens quickly under its own power.
SERAPHINE is standing in the door way, dressed similarly to the other angels.

SERAPHINE

Are you Evelyn Chevalier?

KAREN

Oh, for god's sake! Not another one!

SERAPHINE

Evelyn Chevalier, I bring to you a sacred message from the Lord God Almighty. I am –

KAREN

I know. I know. You're the freaking angel of death!

KAREN collapses on sofa. Blackout.

To read the rest of the play, contact Dave@dritchardtucker.com