

The Amazing Angel-Man

By Julian Felice

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AUDITION 1

(LIGHTS transition to JAMES, NEIL, and MICHAEL engaged in a superhero fantasy. Michael is playing the role of the Dark Overlord.)

JAMES: I will never join you, Dark Overlord!

MICHAEL: Don't be stupid, Angel-Man! Join me and we will rule the universe together!

JAMES: Never!

MICHAEL: Then...you will die!

(NEIL has sneaked his way behind MICHAEL.)

JAMES: Now, Dragon-Boy!

NEIL: *(Prompting him.)* Dragon-Knight!

JAMES: Oh, for god's sake! Now, Dragon-Knight!

(NEIL attacks MICHAEL with a light-saber. Michael drops to the floor, defeated.)

MICHAEL: *(Crawling on the floor.)* Angel-Man! You and your sidekick have beaten me! My powers were no match for your cunning!

JAMES: *(Sitting in his wheelchair.)* You have been vanquished, Dark Overlord! I will now temporarily assume the throne of Quartzeria until the rightful king returns!

NEIL: I will fetch him, Angel-Man!

(NEIL exits. JAMES remains sitting in his wheelchair and MICHAEL is still lying on the floor.)

MICHAEL: I was a fool to have challenged you, Angel-Man!
The legends about your awesome power are clearly true!
Here I lie, a defeated villain, powerless and unable to
continue. I pray that you forgive me.

AUDITION 2

TINA: John? How are you? *(Pause.)* The doctor says you'll be OK in a few days. You gave us a nasty scare. *(Pause.)* Look, John...I know things have been difficult for you. For all of us. And this business with James...I know it's hit you hard. And I know you feel helpless. You blame God, you blame the doctors...you even blame me! And I understand all that. You wanted a son, and you're upset about how things have turned out. And you turn to drink because it makes you feel better, and you lash out because you're angry. And tonight you almost died because of it. You almost left your children without a father. *(Pause.)* You *have* a son, John. He's 8 years old and his name is James. And he's a great little boy. You'd be so proud of him. Yes, he's very ill. He can't walk, and he can't talk. He won't do many of the things that other boys will do. But *we* can move him and *we* can be his voice. He's amazing, John, he really is. He can do incredible things. He's a fighter. And he's happy. He's always smiling. And he loves you. He loves you very, very much. Much more than you deserve.

AUDITION 3

(HE approaches JAMES tearfully. James still seems impervious to everything.)

JOHN: *(Cont'd.)* I'm sorry, son. I am so, so sorry. I promise I'll never drink again. I've sought help, and I'm going to meetings, and I'm doing really well so far. But I know I will never drink again...because I have no reason to. I used to drink because I was angry, angry that you were ill and that you couldn't do all these things. But I've realized you can do some amazing things that I never thought possible. I've realized that you are a special little boy, that you have given me a second chance and that I need to do everything in my power to deserve it. You have given me a chance to be a father again, James. You saved my life. And not just on the cliff. *(A pause as he gazes lovingly at JAMES.)* I love you, son. *(HE starts to walk away.)*

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