

Encore 2024 – Monologue Level 1

Let The Little Children Come to Me  
Matthew 19:13-14  
By Kathryn Higgins

*Looking lost, a child enters as though fumbling through a large crowd.*

Excuse me, pardon me... my apologies... woah, hey mister, look out, little kid coming through!

*They find a spot that seems safe enough for now, and look up...*

Excuse me? Do you mind if I wait here with you until my Gam Gam finds me? She said if I ever get lost, I should find someone old and stay right there. You look old; older than me anyway. So, can I stand with you? I won't take up much room and I'll be real quiet.

*Waits for response. Relieved...*

Aw, thanks!

*Gets comfortable. Awkward silence.*

She was right here like five minutes ago when we were listening to the Teacher.

*Waits for response. Shocked...*

What? Do you live under a bridge or something? Aren't you wondering why all these people are here and why there's like no leprosy in town anymore? *(beat)* Jesus. The Messiah? Early thirties, long hair, super friendly? Ok, well, you're missing out buddy, 'cause everybody wants to hear what this guy's gonna say next. Gam Gam brought me to listen to him, but I couldn't see anything, so I crawled to the front but then there was like twelve guys grabbing me. "Get back, no kids allowed!" And I was super scared 'cause I haven't exactly hit my growth spurt yet. So, I thought I was gonna be in big trouble or get squished or something, but then they put me down because...*(beat)* He talked to me.

*Hoping for a bigger reaction. Awkward silence. This stranger still doesn't know who they're referring to...*

Jesus. The teacher I was telling you about? He said, "Let the little children come to me." That's me. I'm the little children. And then he said something about how the Kingdom of Heaven is mine, which sounds pretty great because the only thing I own is this ball of strings I've been collecting. And we basically hung out for a while and now we're best friends. I wanted to introduce him to Gam Gam but and I couldn't find her, and that's when I found you.

*Beat.*

So, do you just want to just sit there or do you want to go meet him too?