

THE BIBLE ADVENTURES OF MONTANA HOLMES

by Bruce Hennigan



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**THE BIBLE
ADVENTURES OF
MONTANA HOLMES**

By Bruce Hennigan

PRODUCTION NOTES

Montana Holmes is a swashbuckling character with a buffoonish sidekick, Rollo Rotundo. Their chemistry is reminiscent of Abbott and Costello or Laurel and Hardy.

Each Montana Holmes episode may start out with a dramatic action sequence. This can have elements of a stunt and can be prefaced with a majestic, swelling musical score. The nature of the stunt is suggested in each sketch and can be omitted or changed for each stage setting.

SUGGESTED VOICE-OVER *(Optional):*

Welcome, boys and girls, to Montana Holmes' adventures in the Bible. Join famed biblical archaeologist Montana Holmes and his sidekick, Rollo Rotundo, as they search through ancient lands. Today's adventure...

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Montana Holmes and the Ark

(Based on Genesis 6-8)

SUMMARY

Montana Holmes and Rollo Rotundo stumble upon the door to Noah's ark. There, they talk to several of the animals and Noah and his wife and learn about the promise God made to Noah — and all of us.

CAST

Dr. Montana Holmes — *famed biblical archaeologist*; Rollo Rotundo — *Montana Holmes' sidekick*; Elephant; Mouse; Cat; Noah; Noah's Wife.

PROPS

A lantern for Rollo.

COSTUMES

Montana Holmes wears a wide-brimmed hat, blue jeans, a khaki shirt, and a leather jacket. He carries a leather pouch and a whip.

Rollo Rotundo wears balloon pants, a white shirt and a colorful vest. He wears a sash around his midriff and a red fez.

The elephant wears a gray sweat suit — padding optional. A trunk made of gray cloth with a length of elastic attached may be worn around the head.

The mouse should dress in brown. Use eyeliner to draw on whiskers. Round mouse ears of brown cardboard may be attached to a headband. A brown cloth tail completes the costume.

The cat wears black. Whiskers may be added with eyeliner. Black construction paper triangular ears may be attached to a headband. For the tail, use a length of black cloth.

Noah should wear a biblical costume of a robe and sandals. He may also wear a long, flowing beard.

Noah's Wife should also wear a biblical robe and sandals. She should also wear a cloth head drape.

SET

The only set piece needed is some type of door. Vines (silk, paper, or real) should cover the entrance. If you have access to an actual door in your performing area, that is the easiest solution. If you are performing on a stage, a paper door may be pinned to the curtains and Monty and Rollo can simply step through it and re-enter, as if they've entered another room. Otherwise, use a refrigerator carton with the flap drawn to look like a door.

- 1 (MONTANA and ROLLO walk onto the stage short of breath,
2 as if they've been climbing a great mountain.)
- 3 **ROLLO:** Monty, I thought we would never reach the top of
4 this mountain.
- 5 **MONTANA:** Well, we finally reached the top, Rollo. Now let's
6 look and see if we can find the remains of Noah's Ark.
- 7 **ROLLO:** (ROLLO walks over to a nearby wall and brushes aside
8 some vines to reveal a door framed in wooden timbers that
9 leads into another chamber.) Monty, come here.
- 10 **MONTANA:** It's a doorway. And if I'm not mistaken, this
11 wood is gopher wood.
- 12 **ROLLO:** Gophers? You mean like the critters that dig holes
13 in the ground? I thought beavers cut wood.
- 14 **MONTANA:** Gopher wood is made out of a type of tree. Not a
15 rodent. Come along, Rollo. Let's go.
- 16 **ROLLO:** Into that darkness in there?
- 17 **MONTANA:** Well, get out your lantern and let's go. (The two of
18 them disappear through the door and re-emerge back to Center
19 Stage from the other side, looking around.)
- 20 **ROLLO:** Monty, what is that awful smell?
- 21 **MONTANA:** I'm not sure, Rollo, but it is pretty nasty. (The
22 ELEPHANT enters Stage Left, followed by the MOUSE.)
- 23 **ELEPHANT:** (Fearfully) Oh my, oh my! You're frightening me.
24 Leave me alone. Leave me alone. Why do you chase me
25 all over the place?
- 26 **MOUSE:** I just want to be your friend, Mr. Elephant.
27 C'mon...give me a ride on your trunk. Please?
- 28 **ROLLO:** Monty, there's someone here.
- 29 **MONTANA:** (He turns around to see the ELEPHANT and the
30 MOUSE.) It's an elephant. And a mouse.
- 31 **ROLLO:** How did they get up here, Monty? (The CAT enters
32 from Stage Right.)
- 33 **MOUSE:** (Shrinks back in fright, pointing to the CAT) Now do you
34 see why I want to climb up your trunk? That cat wants
35 to gobble me up!

- 1 **ELEPHANT:** Well, what am I supposed to do? All I want to do
 2 is run away from you 'cause you scare me.
- 3 **CAT:** I promise I don't want to eat you, little mouse.
- 4 **MOUSE:** Yeah, sure.
- 5 **MONTANA:** Excuse me, could you tell me what's going on
 6 here?
- 7 **ELEPHANT:** I'm just trying to get away from this mouse.
- 8 **MOUSE:** I'm just trying to get away from this cat.
- 9 **CAT:** I just want a friend. *(NOAH enters from Stage Left.)*
- 10 **NOAH:** There you three are. It's time to get back to your
 11 stalls.
- 12 **ELEPHANT:** Oh, I hate that stall. It's so tiny. I can't even
 13 turn around in it.
- 14 **MOUSE:** Well, you should come visit my stall. It's very large.
- 15 **CAT:** *(Slyly)* Why don't you come visit my stall, little mouse?
- 16 **MOUSE:** Mr. Noah, this cat is trying to have me for dinner.
- 17 **NOAH:** Oh, you silly animals. Don't you know God has put
 18 you here together? He's not going to let one of you eat
 19 the other. Give me a break. *(NOAH turns to ROLLO.)* And
 20 just what stall did you two escape from?
- 21 **ROLLO:** I beg your pardon. I'm not an animal.
- 22 **NOAH:** *(He pats ROLLO on the stomach.)* A little more hair, and
 23 you could be mistaken for a bear.
- 24 **MONTANA:** Am I to understand that you are Noah and this
 25 is Noah's ark?
- 26 **NOAH:** Yes, it's the ark. The ark of unhappiness.
- 27 **MONTANA:** Unhappiness?
- 28 **NOAH:** Yes. Have you ever been locked into a huge, wooden
 29 box with thousands of animals? Ohhh...they have to be
 30 fed, they have to be cleaned, and worst of all, I have to
 31 clean up their messes. *(NOAH lifts up his foot and looks at
 32 the bottom of it. A woman walks in from Stage Right. She's
 33 NOAH'S WIFE.)*
- 34 **NOAH'S WIFE:** Noah, darling, we've got another problem.
- 35 **NOAH:** Another problem? What now?

- 1 NOAH'S WIFE: Well, it has to do with the penguins.
2 NOAH: The penguins? What are they doing now?
3 NOAH'S WIFE: They're fighting with the ducks.
4 NOAH: Why are they fighting with the ducks?
5 NOAH'S WIFE: It seems that they don't want to swim in the
6 same water with the ducks.
7 NOAH: Swim in the water? What water?
8 NOAH'S WIFE: Well, you see, there's a leak in the ark.
9 NOAH: A leak?
10 NOAH'S WIFE: Yes. It has to do with the woodpeckers.
11 NOAH: The woodpeckers? What do the woodpeckers have to
12 do with a leak?
13 NOAH'S WIFE: Well, you see, the woodpeckers poked a hole
14 in the side of the ark and the ark began to leak and it
15 formed a lake down on the third deck and the penguins
16 are chasing the ducks out of the water, and...
17 NOAH: That's it! I've had enough! I'm going for a long swim.
18 MONTANA: Wait a minute, Noah. Don't get discouraged.
19 There *is* hope, you know.
20 NOAH: How can I think there's hope? I've been in this ark
21 for almost forty days and forty nights. The penguins
22 can't get along with the ducks. The giraffes stick their
23 heads out the windows and that upsets the ostriches,
24 because there's no sand for the ostriches to stick their
25 heads in. The anteaters keep chasing the ants. The dogs
26 have fleas. The hyenas are laughing at the three-toed
27 sloths. You try running a boat full of animals for forty
28 days and forty nights and see if you can get used to the
29 noise and the confusion and the smell.
30 ROLLO: Well, surely one day all of this water will disappear
31 and you'll be on dry land.
32 NOAH: Well, that's what God promised me.
33 MONTANA: That's right. God made you a promise, didn't he?
34 He promised that he would take care of you when he
35 wiped out the rest of the earth.

1 **NOAH:** Yes, God has promised.

2 **MONTANA:** Listen, Noah. When God makes a promise, he
3 keeps it. It may mean that things are tough for a while,
4 but you must hope that God will keep his promise.
5 You've just got to hang on a little longer, and one day
6 you'll see the rainbow at the end of the tunnel.

7 **NOAH:** Rainbow? What's a rainbow?

8 **MONTANA:** You'll see. *(Turning to the audience)* So you see,
9 kids, God always keeps his promises, and you can count
10 on him. The word for today is "promise." See ya in the
11 Bible, kids! *(Tips hat and runs off with ROLLO following.)*

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Montana Holmes and the Lion's Den

(Based on Daniel 6:14-28)

SUMMARY

Montana and Rollo find themselves in a lion's den and learn a lesson about trust from Daniel.

CAST

Montana Holmes, Rollo Rotundo, Leo the Lion, Daniel.

PROPS

A torch or lantern for Rollo. A map for Montana.

COSTUMES

Montana Holmes is dressed in a leather jacket, brown hat, khaki pants (with a map in his pocket), boots, gloves, and carries a whip (but no gun).

Rollo Rotundo is dressed in white pants, a white coat, a thin tie and a red fez.

Leo should be dressed in a lion costume somewhat like the Cowardly Lion from *The Wizard of Oz*. He should be dressed in brown or gold with a cloth tail attached. A yarn mane may frame his face.

Daniel should wear a simple biblical robe and sandals.

SET

This sketch may be performed anywhere with no special set, but if you wish to make it more elaborate, you may use the optional action tag at the beginning of the script and add a music soundtrack.

SOUND EFFECTS

Before Leo the Lion is actually seen, he roars from Off-stage. A microphone will help to project the sound.

- 1 **OPTIONAL BEGINNING ACTION TAG:** Music swells with an
 2 opening theme suggesting a wild, swashbuckling motif. A large
 3 paper frame is sitting Center Stage with a rock facade painted
 4 on it. Fog swirls around the floor of the stage, and as the music
 5 builds to a climax, MONTANA HOLMES busts through the
 6 paper and rolls onto the stage, surrounded by smoke. ROLLO
 7 appears in the opening holding a lantern and follows him in.
 8
- 9 **ROLLO:** Monty, are you all right?
- 10 **MONTANA:** Yeah, Rollo. Just a few cracked ribs. At least
 11 there are no snakes in here. That last stop was a killer.
- 12 **ROLLO:** Where are we?
- 13 **MONTANA:** *(Pulls out a map and studies it in the light from the*
 14 *lantern.)* According to this map, this is the cave which
 15 leads to the lost palace of Nebuchadnezzar.
- 16 **ROLLO:** Monty, I'm scared. It's dark in here.
- 17 **MONTANA:** Rollo, where's your faith? Nothing is going to
 18 happen to you.
- 19 **ROLLO:** When I say my prayers at night, I know I'm not
 20 supposed to be afraid of the dark. Still, I wish God
 21 carried a flashlight.
- 22 **MONTANA:** You've got a lantern. Relax. I won't lead you into
 23 danger. Trust me.
- 24 **ROLLO:** Do you really think that we should be poking our
 25 nose into the past? I hear this King Nebuchadnezzar
 26 was a pretty mean fellow.
- 27 **MONTANA:** Nebuchadnezzar is dead and gone. All we're
 28 going to do is try to find his palace. Just think of the
 29 treasures that await us. *(MONTANA HOLMES and*
 30 *ROLLO study the map and then motion towards Center Stage*
 31 *as if studying the cave. They walk slowly and stoop as if*
 32 *entering a cave and pause Center Stage.)* Wow! Rollo, look at
 33 this. This is a huge cavern. I'll betcha this is
 34 Nebuchadnezzar's throne room.
- 35 **ROLLO:** Uh, yeah. Now that we've seen it, let's go. *(ROLLO*

1 *tries to leave and MONTANA reaches out without looking at*
 2 *him and grabs his arm and pulls him back next to him.)*

3 **MONTANA:** Rollo, don't be so superstitious. We're scientists,
 4 remember?

5 **ROLLO:** I'm no scientist. I'm a coward.

6 **MONTANA:** Rollo, look around you. Do you see any snakes?

7 *(ROLLO shakes his head.) Any bats? (ROLLO shakes his*

8 *head.) There's absolutely nothing here to be afraid of.*

9 *(MONTANA turns his head back to the map and doesn't hear*

10 *the faint roar from Off-stage Left. ROLLO does hear it.)*

11 **ROLLO:** *(Looking very frightened)* Monty, did you hear that?

12 **MONTANA:** *(Looks around and shakes his head.)* I didn't hear

13 anything. It was probably just an echo. Come on, let's

14 see if we can find Nebuchadnezzar's jewel-encrusted

15 throne.

16 **ROLLO:** *(Another roar sounds, this time louder.)* Forget the

17 throne, Monty. We're about to find a monster. Let's get

18 out of here.

19 **MONTANA:** *(He turns his back to Stage Left and faces ROLLO.*

20 *ROLLO can see over his shoulder as MONTANA delivers the*

21 *following line. As MONTANA talks, LEO THE LION enters*

22 *from Stage Left and slowly creeps up on him from behind.*

23 *ROLLO looks more and more frightened. He tries to speak and*

24 *his mouth won't work. He points over MONTANA's shoulder.)*

25 **Rollo,** I told you there is nothing alive in these caves. All

26 of this happened thousands and thousands of years ago.

27 There's nothing in here to be afraid of. *(MONTANA turns*

28 *around nonchalantly and reacts as he sees the LION.)*

29 **LEO:** *(Bears a striking resemblance in appearance and speech to the*

30 *Cowardly Lion in the Wizard of Oz.)* Roar, roar.

31 **MONTANA:** *(Hides behind ROLLO.)* It's a man-eating lion! Why

32 did it have to be lions? Rollo, why didn't you tell me?

33 **LEO:** Just who do you think you are comin' into my cave like

34 this? I oughta eat you up. I oughta tear you limb from

35 limb.

- 1 **ROLLO:** Monty, shoot him!
- 2 **MONTANA:** Rollo, you know I don't carry a gun.
- 3 **LEO:** (*Coming closer*) Roar, roar. Take that, you trespassers. I
- 4 oughta scratch your eyes out. I oughta tear your throat
- 5 out. I oughta eat your nose. I oughta bite your ears.
- 6 **MONTANA:** (*Taking out his whip and unleashing it*) Stand back,
- 7 Rollo. I'll handle this. (*He cracks his whip two or three times*
- 8 *and the LION cowers.*)
- 9 **LEO:** Cut it out. Cut it out. Such a loud noise. You're gonna
- 10 ruffle my fur.
- 11 **MONTANA:** That's more like it, you savage beast. (*DANIEL*
- 12 *enters from Stage Right and steps between MONTANA and*
- 13 *LEO.*)
- 14 **DANIEL:** Excuse me, but just what is going on here?
- 15 **MONTANA:** Just who are you?
- 16 **DANIEL:** I'm Daniel. How did you end up here in Nebuchad-
- 17 nezzar's lion's den?
- 18 **MONTANA:** Daniel? Well, never mind who you are. Stand
- 19 back. That lion is gonna rip you to shreds!
- 20 **DANIEL:** Don't be silly. This lion has become my friend. He's
- 21 not gonna hurt a hair on my head. (*To LEO*) Are you,
- 22 Leo? (*LEO walks across and puts his arm around DANIEL's*
- 23 *shoulders.*)
- 24 **LEO:** I wouldn't hurt a hair on his head. He's my buddy.
- 25 **DANIEL:** He's telling the truth. He won't hurt you. Leo, open
- 26 your mouth. (*LEO opens his mouth, very, very, wide. He*
- 27 *stands like this throughout the next lines of dialog.*) Go ahead,
- 28 Mr. Holmes. Stick your head into the lion's mouth. I
- 29 promise you he won't bite.
- 30 **MONTANA:** You're out of your mind, old man. I'm not about
- 31 to stick my head in that mouth.
- 32 **ROLLO:** (*Looking closely at LEO*) Besides, he's got bad breath.
- 33 Yuck.
- 34 **DANIEL:** What if I were to tell you that you could stick your
- 35 head in his mouth and he wouldn't bite it if God made

1 the promise?

2 **MONTANA:** If God made the promise?

3 **DANIEL:** That's right, Mr. Holmes. You see, God promised
4 that if I obeyed him, I would never come to harm. He
5 promised that he would shut the lion's mouth and send
6 an angel to keep him from harming me. He has kept his
7 promise.

8 **MONTANA:** Well, what's to keep the lion from keeping God's
9 promise?

10 **DANIEL:** Mr. Holmes, you must have faith. Do you know
11 what faith is?

12 **MONTANA:** Yeah, faith is my bullwhip.

13 **DANIEL:** No. Faith is believing blindly that God will keep
14 his promises and take care of you. If you have faith, Mr.
15 Holmes, this lion will never bite you.

16 **MONTANA:** All right, I'll give it a try. But I'm not putting my
17 head in there. I'll put one finger.

18 *(This particular part of the sketch can be played up for a lot of*
19 *laughs. MONTANA extends one finger and hesitantly starts to*
20 *place it in LEO's mouth. He pulls back and repeats the action*
21 *several times until finally, he grabs ROLLO's finger and puts it*
22 *into LEO's mouth. LEO roars and pretends to try to bite him*
23 *and MONTANA falls back. LEO smiles.)*

24 **LEO:** I gotcha. I was only kiddin'.

25 **DANIEL:** See, Mr. Holmes, you've learned a powerful lesson
26 today. If you have faith in God's promises, he will
27 always take care of you.

28 **MONTANA:** *(Turns to children)* Did you hear that, kids? God
29 always keeps his promises. But don't try this at home
30 with a real lion! So remember the word for today: Faith.
31 See ya in the Bible, kids! *(Tips his hat and he and ROLLO*
32 *run off.)*

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Montana Holmes in the Furnace

(Based on Daniel 3:19-25)

SUMMARY

Montana and Rollo get lost in a cave. They are soon surrounded by fire and are saved by three men who believe in God.

CAST

Montana Holmes, Rollo Rotundo, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego.

PROPS

Montana's whip.

COSTUMES

Montana Holmes is dressed in a wide-brimmed hat, blue jeans, a khaki shirt, and a leather jacket. He carries a leather pouch and a whip.

Rollo Rotundo wears balloon pants, a white shirt, and a colorful vest. He wears a sash around his midriff and a red fez.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego wear simple biblical robes and sandals.

SET

A bare stage is fine. The cave setting is merely pantomimed.

1 *(The scene begins with MONTANA making a traditionally*
 2 *action-oriented entrance onto the stage. He falls from behind a*
 3 *flat and rolls to Center Stage. ROLLO stumbles in after him*
 4 *and looks back Stage Right.)*

5 **ROLLO: Monty, are you hurt?**

6 **MONTANA:** *(Stands up, rubbing his back.)* No! I always tumble
 7 down a forty-foot rock slope without getting hurt. Yes,
 8 my back feels like a pretzel!

9 **ROLLO: You should've listened to me, Monty. You should've**
 10 **watched that last step. It was a killer.**

11 **MONTANA:** *(Glares at ROLLO.)* "Trust me," you said. That's
 12 the last time I listen to you! Now, where's the map?

13 **ROLLO:** *(Pats his pockets and glances around.)* The map?

14 **MONTANA: Don't tell me you dropped the map!**

15 **ROLLO: It was dark in that cave. An air current blew it out**
 16 **of my pocket.**

17 **MONTANA: Yeah, just like it blew the brains right out of**
 18 **your head! Now, what are we going to do? Without that**
 19 **map, we're lost in these caves.**

20 **ROLLO: Maybe we could climb back to the top?**

21 **MONTANA:** *(Looks up.)* Up there? Hey, I don't remember
 22 seeing anybody up there besides us. Who are those
 23 people?

24 **ROLLO:** *(Waves hands frantically.)* Help! Get us out of here.
 25 *(Pauses.)* Monty, they're laughing at us.

26 **MONTANA: Something strange is happening, Rollo. (He takes**
 27 **off his hat and fans himself.) Is it getting hot in here to**
 28 **you?**

29 **ROLLO: Monty, I'm burning up! (He takes off his vest and fez.)**

30 **MONTANA: Rollo, look. Over there. Fire. Fire is coming this**
 31 **way.**

32 **ROLLO:** *(Tries to climb onto MONTANA's back.)* A river of fire!
 33 Monty, I don't want to burn up!

34 **MONTANA: Get down! We're not hamburger patties yet. (He**
 35 *uncoils his whip.)* If I can just wrap this whip around that

- 1 rock up there, we can climb out.
- 2 **ROLLO:** Oooh, the ground is so hot! (*Hops around on tiptoes.*)
- 3 Hurry, Monty, hurry. (*SHADRACH, MESHACH, and*
- 4 *ABEDNEGO enter. They appear to be very calm and cool.*)
- 5 **ROLLO:** (*Notices them and then does a double take. He taps*
- 6 *MONTANA on the shoulder.*) Uh, Monty. We have company.
- 7 **MONTANA:** Not now, Rollo. I'm busy. Don't interrupt me
- 8 unless some firemen show up. We've got to get out of
- 9 here.
- 10 **MESHACH:** No, you don't.
- 11 **MONTANA:** (*Facing away from the men*) Rollo, has your voice
- 12 changed?
- 13 **SHADRACH:** If you trust God, you will not be harmed.
- 14 **MONTANA:** (*Continuing to work with his whip*) Yeah, yeah. I
- 15 trust God, Rollo, but he was smart enough to give me
- 16 this whip.
- 17 **ABEDNEGO:** Come over here with us. You will be protected.
- 18 **MONTANA:** Us? (*He turns and notices the men.*) Who are you?
- 19 **SHADRACH:** Shadrach.
- 20 **MESHACH:** Meshach.
- 21 **ABEDNEGO:** Abednego.
- 22 **ROLLO:** Yourshack, myshack, and a bungalow?
- 23 **MONTANA:** No, yoursnack, mysnack, and tobedwego.
- 24 **MESHACH:** We're friends of Daniel.
- 25 **SHADRACH:** Nebuchadnezzar has cast us into the fiery
- 26 furnace because we refused to worship his god.
- 27 **ABEDNEGO:** And God has sent a messenger to protect us
- 28 from the flames.
- 29 **MONTANA:** (*Looks at ROLLO and then at the approaching*
- 30 *flames.*) What are we waiting for? Let's join them.
- 31 (*ROLLO and MONTANA stand by the three men.*)
- 32 **ROLLO:** Ah, much better. I love central air.
- 33 **MONTANA:** So, old Nebby's at it again. We ran into his
- 34 doings before in the lion's den.
- 35 **MESHACH:** He is very ruthless.

- 1 SHADRACH: But Jehovah God will prevail.
 2 ABEDNEGO: Do you believe in God?
 3 MONTANA: Sure. Rollo and I both do. I guess I believed in
 4 my whip a little bit more there for a minute.
 5 MESHACH: You must put your trust in God.
 6 SHADRACH: Not in an inanimate object.
 7 ABEDNEGO: God will never let you down.
 8 ROLLO: Trust me. That's something Monty is always saying.
 9 MONTANA: I guess God tells us that all the time and we'd
 10 better listen to him.
 11 ROLLO: *(Pointing up)* Look. That must be Nebuchadnezzar.
 12 MONTANA: Yeah, he must be pretty mad. He's heaping more
 13 wood in the fire.
 14 MESHACH: It won't do him any good.
 15 SHADRACH: God's power is stronger than any fire.
 16 ABEDNEGO: His promise to us is the strongest thing in the
 17 universe.
 18 ROLLO: Who is that over there? *(He points Stage Right.)*
 19 MESHACH: He came to protect us.
 20 SHADRACH: Nebuchadnezzar will wonder who he is.
 21 ABEDNEGO: He looks like the Son of God.
 22 MONTANA: If that doesn't convince old Nebby that God
 23 means business, nothing will.
 24 ALL THREE MEN: *(Together)* He will believe.
 25 MONTANA: *(Turning to children)* Kids, it seems God has
 26 taught me a lesson. I've got to trust him even more than
 27 I trust my whip. So remember the word for today: trust.
 28 See ya in the Bible, kids. *(He tips his hat and runs off with*
 29 *ROLLO trailing.)*
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Montana Holmes and Goliath

(Based on 1 Samuel 17)

SUMMARY

Montana Holmes and Rollo Rotundo are searching for the lost Jewels of Judah in the open countryside. They stumble onto David, a small boy, gathering pebbles for his encounter with the giant, Goliath.

CAST

Montana Holmes, Rollo Rotundo, David, Goliath (*voice-over only*).

PROPS

Whip, leather bag, sling, imaginary stones, map.

COSTUMES

Montana Holmes wears a wide-brimmed hat, blue jeans, a khaki shirt, and a leather jacket. He carries a leather pouch and a whip.

Rollo Rotundo wears balloon pants, a white shirt, and a colorful vest. He wears a sash around his midriff and a red fez.

David wears a short tunic or robe and sandals.

SET

The scene takes place in an open meadow. No special set is required.

1 *(The scene opens with an action sequence in which MONTANA*
 2 *HOLMES runs onto the stage, followed by ROLLO. They circle*
 3 *the stage twice.)*

4 **MONTANA:** Rollo, are we safe yet? *(Still running)*

5 **ROLLO:** I don't know, Monty. He might still be chasing us.
 6 *(Following MONTANA around stage)*

7 **MONTANA:** Just what kind of beast are we running from?

8 **ROLLO:** A bumblebee.

9 **MONTANA:** *(Stops abruptly and ROLLO runs into him. He turns*
 10 *and glares at ROLLO.)* A bumblebee? "Run, Monty," you
 11 said. "A huge beast is chasing me," you said.

12 **ROLLO:** He was huge. Big black and yellow stripes. *(ROLLO*
 13 *gestures to an imaginary huge bee.)* With black, ugly eyes...

14 **MONTANA:** Rollo, I thought you said "beast" — as in lion,
 15 tiger, rhinoceros. You mean we've been running through
 16 the countryside for the past fifteen minutes from a
 17 bumblebee?

18 **ROLLO:** *(Nods.)* I'm very allergic.

19 **MONTANA:** I can't believe a grown man would be so
 20 frightened of something so small and unimportant. I
 21 don't believe it... *(Stops as he notices DAVID wandering in*
 22 *from Stage Left.)* Who is that?

23 **ROLLO:** I don't know. Probably a local village boy. Why don't
 24 we ask him about the jewels?

25 **MONTANA:** Yes, the jewels. *(He takes out a map.)* According to
 26 this map, we were *(He glares at ROLLO)* right at the spot
 27 where the lost Jewels of Judah were buried. Who knows
 28 where we are now? *(DAVID kneels down and examines the*
 29 *ground.)*

30 **ROLLO:** He's looking for something in the brook.

31 **MONTANA:** *(Walks over to DAVID and looks over his shoulder at the*
 32 *ground.)* Looking for jewels?

33 **DAVID:** No. Just pebbles.

34 **MONTANA:** *(Glances at ROLLO and winks.)* I'll bet! *(He whispers to*
 35 *ROLLO.)* I think I see a ruby on the bottom of the brook.

- 1 **DAVID:** *(Puts pebbles in a leather sack on his belt.)* **That should**
 2 **be enough.**
- 3 **MONTANA:** *(Glances down at the brook as DAVID stands up.)*
 4 **Wait! You left the ruby...**
- 5 **DAVID:** **I need five smooth stones. Five only.** *(ROLLO kneels*
 6 *down on the ground as MONTANA and DAVID talk. He puts*
 7 *several stones in his pocket secretly.)*
- 8 **MONTANA:** **Stones? Then you aren't looking for rubies? Or**
 9 **diamonds? Or emeralds?**
- 10 **DAVID:** **No. God told me to take five smooth stones. That's all**
 11 **I'll need.**
- 12 **MONTANA:** **What do you need them for?**
- 13 **DAVID:** **For him.** *(He points up to the imaginary head of Goliath.*
 14 *ROLLO looks up and reacts, tossing his stones back into the brook.)*
- 15 **ROLLO:** *(Running over to hide behind MONTANA)* **It's a giant!**
- 16 **MONTANA:** **Yeah. Maybe I can scare him off with my whip.**
- 17 **ROLLO:** **Montana, I think I'm not allergic to bumblebees**
 18 **anymore.**
- 19 **MONTANA:** **What?**
- 20 **ROLLO:** **Now I'm allergic to giants.**
- 21 **DAVID:** **Your whip won't help you, Mr. Holmes. Let me take**
 22 **care of this.**
- 23 **MONTANA:** **You? You're just a boy.**
- 24 **ROLLO:** **Yeah, and a skinny one at that.**
- 25 **DAVID:** **Size is unimportant. I have killed both a lion and a**
 26 **bear, and I did so by the power of Jehovah God. He will**
 27 **deliver Goliath into my hands.**
- 28 **MONTANA:** **I see an army over there. Let me go and get you**
 29 **a shield and sword.**
- 30 **DAVID:** **I have my weapon.** *(He takes out the sling.)*
- 31 **ROLLO:** *(Laughs.)* **That? What is it?**
- 32 **DAVID:** **It's a sling.**
- 33 **ROLLO:** **Monty, let's get out of here while we can.**
- 34 **GOLIATH:** *(Voice-over)* **Am I a dog, that you come to me with**
 35 **sticks?**

1 **ROLLO:** Maybe if you threw your staff he would chase after
2 it and play fetch.

3 **MONTANA:** Rollo, be quiet. David looks like he knows what
4 he's doing. If God says he can kill that giant with a sling,
5 then maybe he can.

6 **GOLIATH:** I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and
7 the beasts of the field.

8 **DAVID:** You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin.
9 But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the
10 God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This
11 day will the Lord deliver you into my hands. *(DAVID*
12 *reaches into his pouch and puts a stone in his sling. He whirls*
13 *it around his head.)*

14 **ROLLO:** Monty, he's getting closer. Let's go!

15 **MONTANA:** No, Rollo. David can do it. *(DAVID pantomimes*
16 *unleashing his stone. The three of them watch as if the giant*
17 *were teetering and falling. They jump when he hits the ground.)*

18 **ROLLO:** Wow! I knew you could do it.

19 **MONTANA:** Nice job, David.

20 **DAVID:** I did not do this. The Lord did. Excuse me.

21 **MONTANA:** Where are you going?

22 **DAVID:** To cut Goliath's head off.

23 **ROLLO:** *(Looks at audience as DAVID exits Stage Right.)* Yuck!

24 **MONTANA:** Kids, looks like we learned a lesson today.
25 There's a lot of power in little things. You saw how that
26 little bee scared big guys like Rollo and me. You also
27 saw little David take care of that giant. You're never too
28 small for God to use. He will give you the power. So,
29 remember the word for today: power. See ya in the
30 Bible, kids. *(Tips his hat and runs off with ROLLO trailing.)*

31
32
33
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35

Montana Holmes and the Lost Tomb

(Based on John 11:1-44)

SUMMARY

Montana and Rollo encounter a live mummy. It's Lazarus, whom Jesus has raised from the dead.

CAST

Montana Holmes; Rollo Rotundo; Heather, a ten-year-old girl; Mark, an eight-year-old boy; Courtney, a six-year-old girl; Peter, a nine-year-old boy; (Note: The children can vary in age and sex and can be planted in the audience or come out on stage as shown.) Lazarus; Jesus.

PROPS

Rubber snake. Map (in Montana's backpack). Lantern or flashlight for Rollo.

COSTUMES

Montana Holmes wears a wide-brimmed hat, blue jeans, a khaki shirt, and a leather bomber jacket. He carries a backpack and a whip.

Rollo Rotundo wears balloon pants, a white shirt, and a colorful vest. He wears a sash around his midriff and a red fez.

Four hats of various explorer varieties are needed for the children to wear. They are dressed in contemporary casual clothes.

Lazarus should wear a biblical robe and sandals. Over the robe he should be wrapped with strips of white cloth, mummy-style.

Jesus should wear a white biblical robe and sandals.

SET

The stage is dark and mysterious. A large, rock-like slab (or long table) is at Stage Right.

ALTERNATE STAGING

This sketch may include a stunt-like entrance by Montana. It was originally performed in a gym with exposed rafters. Montana swung onto the stage on a rope and fell "behind" the stage into a pit of snakes. Alternate entrances can be used

depending on stage settings. A voice-over may be played with majestic music in the background to set the scene. This music can swell up to the point where Montana makes his dramatic entrance. The emphasis is to “wow” the children with an action sequence up front. This captures their attention right off.

1 *(LAZARUS is lying on the slab or table Stage Right. A dark*
 2 *cloth covers him. The CHILDREN enter and cross to Center*
 3 *Stage, looking around nervously.)*

4 **HEATHER:** Peter, where are we? I'm scared.

5 **PETER:** It looks like a cave to me.

6 **COURTNEY:** It's so dark and cold.

7 **MARK:** I think it's awesome!

8 **ROLLO:** *(Running On-stage)* Monty, Monty, where are you?
 9 *(Turns and sees the CHILDREN.)* Who are you kids and
 10 what are you doing here?

11 **PETER:** I'm Peter and this is my sister Heather. These are
 12 our friends, Courtney and Mark. Who are you?

13 **ROLLO:** Rollo Rotundo. I'm Dr. Montana Holmes' assistant.
 14 We were searching this cave for lost treasure and I lost
 15 Monty. See if you can find him. *(They look around, asking*
 16 *children in the audience to help. The CHILDREN will spy*
 17 *MONTANA near the ceiling on a rope as he swings down,*
 18 *through a false rock wall and falls on the stage. He gets up and*
 19 *starts toward ROLLO and CHILDREN, falling over the back of*
 20 *the stage into a "pit." The audience watches as he slowly*
 21 *struggles back up onto the stage as if climbing out of a pit, or*
 22 *MONTANA may simply somersault in and then stagger about.)*

23 **ROLLO:** Monty, are you all right?

24 **MONTANA:** Yeah, Rollo. Just a cracked rib, that's all. But I'll
 25 get over it. Where did you go, Rollo?

26 **ROLLO:** I found an easier way down.

27 **MONTANA:** Now you tell me. I had to use my whip. *(He holds*
 28 *up a "whip" he has held in his hand since climbing out of the*
 29 *pit and it is, in actuality, a large snake. The CHILDREN*
 30 *scream and MONTANA looks at them quizzically and then*
 31 *notices the snake. He screams and throws the snake down.)* I
 32 knew that was a snake. And who are these people?

33 **PETER:** Fellow adventurers.

34 **MONTANA:** I see. Well, if you're going to help me, you need
 35 hats. *(He retrieves four hats from backstage and gives one to*

1 *each child.)* Now, stay close to me and Rollo, because
 2 these caves can be dangerous.

3 **PETER:** What are you looking for?

4 **ROLLO:** Lost treasure. Gems, diamonds, rubies...

5 **MONTANA:** Rollo only thinks about the riches. I'm looking
 6 for archaeological data. This map shows how to find the
 7 lost throne room of Herod Antipas.

8 **COURTNEY:** Who is Herod Antipasta?

9 **MARK:** He was a famous spaghetti maker, silly.

10 **MONTANA:** No. Herod was the king at the time Jesus
 11 walked the earth. Now follow me closely. *(They cross to*
 12 *Stage Right and spy LAZARUS lying on a long table covered by*
 13 *a dark cloth. ROLLO goes over and, anticipating jewels, slowly*
 14 *takes the cloth off. He uncovers a mummy and reacts with fear.)*

15 **ROLLO:** MMMMonty! Come here!

16 **MONTANA:** What is it, Rollo?

17 **ROLLO:** I found my mummy.

18 **COURTNEY:** It doesn't look like Mommy.

19 **PETER:** Not mommy. Mummy. A body wrapped in cloth.

20 **HEATHER:** A body? You mean a dead person?

21 **ALL KIDS:** Yuck!

22 **MONTANA:** It's just a mummified body, kids. It can't harm
 23 us.

24 **ROLLO:** Yeah, but what about that movie where the mummy
 25 stood up and walked like this? *(He walks, dragging a leg,*
 26 *arms up in claws.)*

27 **MONTANA:** It's dead, Rollo. Probably been dead for two
 28 thousand years. Now, snap out of it and help me find
 29 this other cave. *(MONTANA and the KIDS turn away from*
 30 *the body. ROLLO glances at it one last time and turns to follow.*
 31 *One of the body's hands reaches up and grabs ROLLO by the*
 32 *tunic. ROLLO becomes speechless, pulling frantically and*
 33 *finally finding his voice.)*

34 **ROLLO:** Monty! Monty! It's alive!

35 **MONTANA:** *(Runs over and inspects the now-motionless body.)*

- 1 **Rollo, what are you talking about? It's dead!**
- 2 **ROLLO:** But it grabbed me. *(Points.)* **Right here.**
- 3 **MONTANA:** *(Lifts the mummy's hand and lets it fall limply.)* **I**
- 4 **think your imagination is overacting, Rollo.** *(He turns*
- 5 *away. ROLLO steps away from the body and starts to walk*
- 6 *away. He turns back curiously and leans over the body. A hand*
- 7 *snakes out and tweaks his nose. ROLLO squeals and runs to*
- 8 *MONTANA.)*
- 9 **ROLLO:** Monty, it's alive, I tell you. It tweaked my nose,
- 10 **and...**
- 11 **MONTANA:** Rollo, a two-thousand-year-old mummy can't
- 12 **tweak your nose.**
- 13 **ROLLO:** Look. See this bump right here? *(He points to the end*
- 14 *of his nose.)*
- 15 **MONTANA:** Well, stop sticking your nose into places where
- 16 **it doesn't belong.** *(ROLLO stands silently and stares over at*
- 17 *the mummy. The mummy's hand motions for him to come over.*
- 18 *ROLLO reacts with fear, pointing questioningly to himself. The*
- 19 *hand beckons and, shivering, he slowly advances to the*
- 20 *mummy. As he arrives, the mummy suddenly sits up and*
- 21 *ROLLO screams in terror.)*
- 22 **ROLLO:** Monty, see? He sat up. He's alive!
- 23 **MONTANA:** *(Turns and reacts with surprise. He takes out his*
- 24 *whip.)* **Get behind me, kids, and I'll protect you.**
- 25 *(LAZARUS gets up and walks toward them. From Off-stage*
- 26 *JESUS says, "Lazarus, come forth." MONTANA looks around.*
- 27 *JESUS enters from Stage Left.)*
- 28 **JESUS:** You may put your whip away. He means you no
- 29 **harm.**
- 30 **ROLLO:** Is that who I think it is?
- 31 **MONTANA:** Yes, Rollo. And this is no ordinary mummy. This
- 32 **is Lazarus, the man Jesus raised from the dead.**
- 33 *(LAZARUS removes his wraps and goes to embrace JESUS.)*
- 34 **LAZARUS:** Master, I heard your voice and awoke from a
- 35 **deep sleep.**



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