

WAX HISTORY MUSEUM  
By Maggie Smith  
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CAST

MS. HOWARD – a teacher, 40's.  
ROBBY – a fourth grader, 10  
LILY – a fourth grader, 10  
JOAN – a fourth grader, 11

(Lights up. A classroom. MS.  
HOWARD stands at the front of the  
room. ROBBY, LILY, and JOAN sit in  
seats across from her.)

MS. HOWARD

Alright, students! Who's excited for this year's Wax History  
Museum?

(All of the students cheer.)

MS. HOWARD

Great! Now, a few weeks ago, each one of you pulled a historical  
figure out of a hat in order to research them. In a few moments,  
all of you will give a brief description of each historical  
figure you've been assigned to research. Robby, why don't you  
start?

(MS. HOWARD moves aside. ROBBY  
takes her place, dressed in a top  
hat and a beard.)

ROBBY

Hello, I'm Abraham Lincoln, and I was the sixteenth president of  
the United States. I was born on February 12, 1809, in  
Hodgenville, Kentucky. I was president from 1861 to 1865. I died  
on April 15, 1865 when John Wilkes Booth assassinated me—

MS. HOWARD

Okay, Robby! That's enough about Abraham Lincoln! From now on,  
let's only talk about school-appropriate history, thank you.  
Lily, it's your turn.

(ROBBY moves back to his seat.  
LILY takes his spot. She's wearing  
a cone around her neck with  
ruffles.)

LILY

(In a bad British accent)

'Ello! I'm Queen Elizabeth the-

MS. HOWARD

Lily, no British accent. This is why we don't fund the arts  
anymore.

LILY

(Unenthused)

Hello, I'm Queen Elizabeth the First. I was the Queen of England  
from 1558 to 1603. My father was Henry the Eighth who had six  
wives. I was called the Virgin Queen because I-

MS. HOWARD

Amazing. Thank you Lily, what a big vocabulary. You're not  
supposed to learn that word until sixth grade health class.  
Joan, you're up.

(LILY moves back to her seat. JOAN  
walks to the front with only the  
right side of her body facing  
forward, covered in leaves.)

JOAN

Hello. I am Adam.

(JOAN does a turn so the left half  
of her body is showing. There is  
makeup on this half of her face.)

JOAN

And I am Eve. We are the first humans.

MS. HOWARD

(Head in hands)

Not again.

JOAN

(As Eve)

God made us in his image. We loved God. And God loved us.

(JOAN faces the left.)

JOAN  
(As Adam)

Then my wife met the Devil.

ROBBY  
(Raising his hand)

Ms. Howard, I thought we weren't supposed to talk about religion in class.

MS. HOWARD  
We're not. Joan, I'm going to need you to sit down, please.

JOAN  
(As Adam)  
Joan isn't here right now. Only Adam.

(JOAN turns to the right.)

JOAN  
(As Eve)  
And Eve. I ate an apple from the forbidden tree and was cursed with menstruation.

(LILY raises her hand.)

MS. HOWARD  
Put your hand down.

(LILY lowers her hand.)

JOAN  
(As Eve)  
God got mad at us and sent us out into the world alone.

(JOAN turns to the left.)

JOAN  
(As Adam)  
There, we made babies. Our son Cain was the first person on Earth to commit murder.

MS. HOWARD

Stop that. You know the school won't let us talk about murder after one of you narc'd about last week's Jack the Ripper lesson.

(JOAN turns to the right.)

JOAN

(As Eve)

Would you rather talk about the fact that our children had to marry each other in order to create offspring. The human race is a product of incest.

MS. HOWARD

Joan. That is enough. You've deliberately gone against the rules of the assignment. Everyone else has researched a historical figure and wrote papers with five MLA citations, while you chose two people who even the Catholic Church believe did not historically exist. I curated this project to make sure everyone got an interesting and real historical figure. And here you are, coming up with your own topic. Joan, who were you supposed to do your project on?

JOAN

Charles Darwin.

(Blackout.)