



QUEEN KATRINA (Duo Version)

A Satirical Sketch about Seeking the Praise of People

written by

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Faith Based Student Musicals

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THEME & SOURCE

Seeking the Praise of People

"...for they loved human praise more than praise from God."

John 12:43

CAST

QUEEN OR KING (M/F) Self absorbed, over-the-top arrogance, heightened, pretentious speech.

LOWLY SERVANT (M/F) Starts out comically submissive, mousy and scared. Grows increasingly bold until he or she has nothing to lose.

QUEEN is sitting on throne, writing.

LOWLY SERVANT labors, grooming the Queen's toenails, hair, nails, massage, etc.

QUEEN puts down writing utensil and holds up paper/scroll.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE: All songs may be sung, or read as lyric.

QUEEN

Almost done! Oh, exhilarating!
(*announcing*)

I'm composing a completely new, original hymn to enter in this year's kingdom-wide composing and hymn writing contest!

LOWLY SERVANT

Oh, Queen Katrina, how exciting! I was not aware you were a composer and hymn writer.

QUEEN

All the more reason to enter, don't you agree? Ah! The kingdom will be so amazed, so impressed when they learn that hymn writing is among my many hidden talents – in addition to the obvious ones, of course – ravishing, brilliant, and pretty amazing on the royal pickleball courts.

LOWLY SERVANT

Yes Your Highness. Of course.

Beat.

QUEEN

Well, don't you want to hear a few lines?

LOWLY SERVANT

(*ridiculous enthusiasm*)

Of course, Your Excellency!

QUEEN

(*formal, like presenting the Magna Carta*)

HELLO THERE GOD, NOW BEND THY EAR.
FRET NO MORE, **QUEEN KATRINA** IS HERE.

Awkward silence.

Well?

LOWLY SERVANT*(hesitation, then stammering)*

Beautiful ma'am. Very, uh, poetic.

QUEEN

Do I sense a lack of enthusiasm?

LOWLY SERVANT*(cautiously)*

Never from this humble servant ma'am. But maybe more about the Almighty?

QUEEN

Have you anything better?

LOWLY SERVANT*(humbly)*

No. Not I, ma'am. But in our parish service last Lord's day, we sang a most glorious hymn—

QUEEN*(demanding)*

Well, out with it!

LOWLY SERVANT

Yes...I believe it began:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY
LORD, GOD ALMIGHTY.

*QUEEN laughs, condescendingly.***QUEEN**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY?

That's it? A bit **repetitive**, don't you think? I doubt you'll be hearing that much longer.*QUEEN picks up scroll.*

Let me try you on the next lines:

SUBJECTS OF THE KINGDOM,
BOW THY KNEE.
WHO IS MORE BLESSED
THAN YOURS TRULY: **ME!**

LOWLY SERVANT stands in awkward, stunned silence.

Well?

LOWLY SERVANT

(tentatively)

Very nice, ma'am. I never knew you were such a...poetess.

QUEEN

Well? What's the hesitation? Have you a better idea?

LOWLY SERVANT

(careful not to cross QUEEN)

Not better, ma'am. Just a different emphasis, maybe. You be the judge.

QUEEN

Indeed I will.

LOWLY SERVANT

At my parish services last Sunday, we offered an exhilarating hymn of worship to the Father.

QUEEN

(irritated)

Go on girl/man.

LOWLY SERVANT

I believe it began:

AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND—

QUEEN

Grace!

Laughs.

Have we mistaken the obvious? My name is **Katrina!** Who might be this **Grace** of whom they sing? Amazing **Katrina**. Now that will sell!

LOWLY SERVANT

(nervous)

Yes ma'am! Of course, your grace, I mean, your Katrina!

QUEEN

Shall I continue?

LOWLY SERVANT

Of course, your royal highness Grace-Katrina.

QUEEN

Very well.

MIRROR MIRROR ON THE WALL,
WHO'S THE SAVIOR OF YOU ALL?

Well, what say you now?

LOWLY SERVANT

(fake enthusiasm)

Lovely, your royal songwriterlyness.

QUEEN

(irritated)

Let me guess. You've heard something better.

LOWLY SERVANT

(mustering courage)

No ma'am, just different, ma'am. At my cathedral last month, we joined in a rousing proclamation:

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS
LET ANGELS –

QUEEN

And again, wouldn't that be, "Crown **her**?" Who might be this **him** of which they sing?

LOWLY SERVANT

(with growing courage)

Who knows, ma'am? Maybe the song suggests that the Almighty is fit for a crown?

QUEEN

I beg your pardon?

LOWLY SERVANT

(stammering fearfully, but determined to speak truth)

Just that we must be....mindful to exalt...the divine Creator and Savior,
rather than mere mortals.

Silence!! **QUEEN**

LOWLY SERVANT jumps back in fear.

Yes, of course, ma'am. **LOWLY SERVANT**

I said **silence!** **QUEEN**

QUEEN slowly stands in a threatening way.

I suppose you're also an expert composer!

Actually ma'am, **LOWLY SERVANT**

QUEEN backs SERVANT menacingly.

Let me guess, you **are** a composer. **QUEEN**

LOWLY SERVANT musters courage.

No ma'am, but I **am** a **follower** of the **Giver and Composer of Life!**
And, if I may say so,

*LOWLY SERVANT inhales to deliver straight DS, knowing this
will mean certain death.*

(proclaims boldly)

"We are created to worship, not to be worshipped."

QUEEN gasps melodramatically with hand to chest.

To the dungeons with you! **QUEEN**

QUEEN points dramatically off stage.

Be gone! Out of my sight!

LOWLY SERVANT continues this bold confrontation as she exits.

LOWLY SERVANT

Actually there was one other magnificent hymn of grandious praise. What was it? When I think of it, I'll get back to you.

SERVANT exits.

QUEEN

Not likely.

QUEEN is alone.

Everyone's a critic. The nerve of her! Finally, that foolish ingrate is out of my sight. At last, I can get back to my masterpiece.

Hallelulua!

LOWLY SERVANT reemerges, ecstatic.

LOWLY SERVANT

HALLELUJUH! That's it!

(in the rhythm/melody of "The Halleluia Chorus" from Handel's "Messiah")

HALLELUJAH!
HALLELUJAH!
HALLELUJAH, HALLELUJAH, HALLELUJAH!

LOWLY SERVANT skips off to dungeon.

QUEEN

Oh pathetic! I am certain we've heard the last of **that** song!

Beat to ponder.

"We're created to worship, not to **be** worshipped."

Curious concept.

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