

A Stone, Just a Little Stone

a radio play in verse and music

by

Richard Farber

voices:

Basso: a man about 60 with a deep sad voice
Tenor: a young man with a brash but intellegent voice
Alto: a woman with ripe warm alto voice
Soprano: a young women with the most beautiful soprano speaking voice imaginable
Announcer One of your most popular and easily identified news readers who is to play him-or-herself.

a note concerning the metrical feel of the poetry. The line is a unit. The line is often a thought.

There should be a pause between lines.

Often the key to the acting will be found as to why the character pauses where he does in his thoughts.

Longer pauses are indicated by the spacing of the units of poetry, what used to be called stanzas.

If the word pause indicates one unit of time, the double space is longer pause,

The pause at the end of the line is usually less than the pause for the word pause . . . it is often just a hesitation, a moment of contemplation before the next idea is realized.

The end of a line with a period usually will be a longer hesitation than a line without a period . . .

a comma indicates a longer hesitation than no punctutation

. . . three dots is an idication of difficulty for the character of dither finding the words for the next line or his or her unwillingness to say the words

There will be considerable music of two kinds in the play.

One type of music will be a kind of musique concrete that will be created from the sounds of stones brought from Israel and Palestine.

A second type will be bass flute solos or duets.

All of the music will be created by the author.

This radio was comissioned by Hoger Rlnk of Radio Bremen.

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a pebble almost -- round and water smooth. PAUSE

A cement block could be a weapon

thrown off the roof of a house in the casbah.

Pick up stones.

Make slings

Pile up stones and blocks on your roofs

You my children, my young lions, can stop the invader

SOPRANO They send their children --- or their children send themselves.

I don't know, or maybe I don't want to know. PAUSE

But I do know that I would be throwing stones if I had been born a Palestinianian.

BASSO I would long ago have emigrated.

TENOR Let the reporters in.

Offer all help possible to the television teams.

Give them coffee and sweets

Show them real Arab hospitality. PAUSE

Tanks can be stopped by young boys and television.

SPORANO Jacob the son of Isaac the grandson of Abraham, who was father of both Israel and Ishmael
used a stone for pillow. . . .

Its no wonder that he saw angels climbing ladders in his dreams.

ALTO I lost a son . . . I lost him for eight long years when he was in an Israeli prison.

Than I gave him to Allah -- a shaheed.

All praise to Allah, he had grown from stones to petrol bombs to putting on a harness

With nails and bolts and fertilizer as an explosive.

No, I didnt loose a son the second time

We -- our people gained a shaheed

MUSIC BEGINS AND CONTINUES UNDER THE NEXT FOUR SPEECHES.

BASSO A stone sits on my heart.
 A thousand thousand stones are thrown at me
 Some in reality and others in the mind's eye of hate.

SOPRANO Stones thrown in reality
 are the easiest to bare.

TENOR Dont just hate the jew.
 Hate is not enough.
 It is actions that will fulfill allah's will -- Inshalla.

ALTO I didn't loose a son.
 I gained the respect of my neighbors
 Money for a new house bigger better in place of the one the Zionists tore down.
 I didnt loose a son.
 We gained a shaheed.

MUSIC ENDS

You have read just the beginning of the play. For a complete copy and information about performance rights please contact me or Mr. Guido Huller at Drei Masken Verlag