

ACTOR'S COPY OF



By S. A. Cranfill
Two-Song Musical Comedy

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Judah: [on stage alone] So...I guess you're the audience. [Eyes the audience.] Hm-m-m. You look like you're okay, so...I have someone who wants to meet you. Benji! Get out here!

Benjamin: [comes cautiously on stage] Is the coast clear?

Judah: [motions him to hurry up and come over] My name is Judah. This is my little-est brother, Benjamin.

Benj: [looks up, insulted] You're not so big yourself!

Judah: Sorry! *Youngest* brother. [Benj folds arms & rolls eyes]

Judah: We have a story to tell you.

Benj: A real humdinger!

Reuben: [enters] It's a *true* story. From a reliable source...me!

Judah: *That* would be Reuben, editor of the *Canaan Gazette*.

Benj: [indicates Reuben] *He's* the *oldest*! ["so there" look at Judah]

Reuben: As I was saying, this is a true story...with just a *bit* of a modern spin.

Benj: What's modern?

Judah: Don't ask.

Gad: [flamboyant entrance] The story is about *us*...and our dad. Dad calls *me*...Gad.

Judah: *E-gad* is more like it.

Levi: [enters] Well he calls *me* Levi. And everyone calls *him*...(slowly) Big Dad Jake.

Big Dad Jake & the 12 Guys of Israel

[Jake enters to center front stage and pops his suspenders under a plaid suit or over a plaid shirt].

Reuben: He's also known as Big *Plaid* Jake.

Jake: So [spreads out his arms] ...I have an audacious tailor.

Reuben: Well, you're the son of Isaac.

Judah: Grandson of Abraham.

Gad: Father of 12 boys and one girl!

Levi: That's a barn full of family!

Gad: *God* calls Dad -- *Israel*.

Jake: So,...I should stand out in a crowd. And *you* should stand out in the pasture. Go! Herd sheep.

Benj: Wait! You forgot about Joseph. [to the audience] *Joseph* and I are *special*!

All Sons: [rolling their eyes] Oh-h-h, Joseph!

Judah: He's Dad's favorite.

Joseph [enters to front center by Jake with a flourish]: Hi! I'm Joseph and I'm Dad's favorite.

Benj: *I'm* special too!

Reuben: Not like *Joseph*. Big Dad Jake gave Joseph a special mark of honor – a coat of many colors!

Joseph: Hey, Dad,...these are really nice threads! [models his coat] Wait 'til the brothers see these! I think they're gonna be *mad*!

Gad: He was *so...o...o* right.

Levi: We were *furious*.

Gad: We hated him so much...

Levi: We couldn't say one nice word to him.

Reuben: Then, to make matters worse, Joseph dreamed a dream and just *had* to tell us about it.

Joseph: You won't believe this, guys, but we were all out mowing the lawn, and all of *your* lawn mowers *bowed down* to *my* lawn mower!