**She Shall Be Called Woman / Yonatan Calderon**

**Sample Translation: Scenes 4, 5, and 6**

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**4. Bar Mitzvah**

*[Bar Mitzvah Boy studying the* Haftara *portion of the week with the Rabbi]*

**Boy:** *[Repeats the portion]* “She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”

**Rabbi:** No good, no good, from the beginning. Read according to the accents.

**Boy:** “And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man.”

**Rabbi:** You’ve forgotten everything I’ve taught you! *[Goes to fetch his chair]* It’s just nerves, everything will be fine. “And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man.”

**Boy:** *[Repeats quietly]*

**Rabbi:**No, you want people to hear you. It’s a big synagogue. “Made He a woman.” Loud. Like a man!

*[The Rabbi taps the Boy on the chest. The Boy flinches and emits a feminine sound of alarm]*

**Boy:** *[Louder]* “Made He a woman.”

*[At the same time, enter the Mother, exchanges glances with the Rabbi, who gestures that things are not going well. The Mother exits]*

**Rabbi:** Very good. “And brought her unto the man.”

**Boy:** “And brought her unto the man.”

*[Enter the Father and looks at them]*

**Father:** Don’t let me interrupt.

**Rabbi:** “And the man said: This is now.”

**Boy:** *[Repeats, out of tune]*

**Rabbi:**You know what? Why don’t we try it standing up? *[They stand up]* “Bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh.”

**Boy:** *[Repeats, even more out of tune. The Father is alarmed and exits]*

**Rabbi:**It’s no good standing up. Sit down, sit.

*[Enter the Mother with a tray of tea and cookies]*

**Mother:** Time for a break. Come and eat something. *[Touches the Rabbi’s shoulder]*

**Rabbi:**No, it’s forbidden!

**Mother:** Oh, you’re “shomer negiah”, no touching… *[Rolls her eyes at the Boy behind the Rabbi’s back]* Ingele, what’s the matter? You’re white as a sheet. You’re going to a synagogue, not a funeral.

**Rabbi:** It’s alright, we’re almost finished.

*[Exit the Mother]*

“She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”

**Boy:** *[Repeats]*

**Rabbi:** *[Despairingly, starts packing up]* Very good.

**Boy:** Rabbi, are girls also called up to read from the Torah?

**Rabbi:** *[Laughs out loud]* No, of course not! Only us men!

*[Enter the Father. He stands the boy up and pats him on the back]*

**Father:** So, this is the big day! Today you get called up to read from the Torah. From today you’re a man!

**Boy:** I’m not…

**Father:** You’re not…?

**Boy:** I’m not.

*[The Father starts pushing him out]*

**Father:** Oh. Don’t forget your prayer shawl! *[Drapes it around him]*

*[They exit through the front door]*

**5. Reading from the Torah**

*[The synagogue. The men gather. The women in the women’s section. The men pray, and the Boy stands on the side. The Father comes over and takes him. The men start passing him from hand to hand, with calls like: “From today you’re a man!”, “He’s the man!”, “You’re a man!”, “Act like a man!” The Boy shudders at the sound of that word, “man”. Tears well up in the Boy’s eyes. The Boy faints.]*

**6. The Star of Madame Arthur’s in Tel Aviv**

*[Sabra Nightclub in Tel Aviv]*

**Manager:** *[Voice]* Ladies and gentlemen! All the way from Madame Arthur’s in Amsterdam, to the Sabra Club here in little Tel Aviv, the one, the only – Carolyn!

*[Enter Carolyn, a transwoman. She sings playback and dances with her back to the audience. The performance ends. The Boy, dressed in a man’s suit, is waiting for the girls at the back door of the club, so he can speak to her. At 1 a.m. Heidi comes out and walks past the Boy]*

**Boy:** Carolyn!

**Carolyn:** Bonsoir, monsieur.

**Boy:** You sing really beautifully!

**Carolyn:** *[Laughing]* Is that what you wanted to tell me?

**Boy:** Yes…

**Carolyn:** *[Laughing]* I’ll pass it on to Shirley Bassey.

**Boy:** Who?

**Carolyn:** I don’t actually sing myself! I do playback.

*[Sees that the Boy doesn’t understand]*

I just move my lips and dance. But thank you! Actually, that’s the best compliment you could have given me!

*[Heidi caresses the Boy’s cheek sensuously, and goes on her way]*

**Boy:** My dream is to be a woman too.

*[Carolyn stops]*

**Carolyn:** So that’s what this is about.

*[Turns to face the Boy]*

It won’t be easy.

*[Inspects him]*

You’ll make a beautiful woman.

**Boy:** Pardon me for asking – are those your breasts?

**Carolyn:** You bet they’re mine! I paid ten thousand francs for them!

**Boy:** I want to have breasts like those too!

**Carolyn:** Are there also travestis in Israel?

**Boy:** Just me and Yarkona.

**Carolyn:** *[Laughing]* If you’re ever in Amsterdam, come and see me at Madame Arthur’s. I’ll arrange for you to work in our cabaret.

**Boy:** Thank you!

**Carolyn:** Good luck, mademoiselle!