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GODS
ARE
FALLEN
AND
ALL
SAFETY
GONE
A
PRAYER

SELMA
DIMITRIJEVIC



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**Gods Are Fallen And
All Safety Gone**

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

SELMA DIMITRIJEVIC

Selma is a director, writer and artistic director of Greyscale. Her plays include *Night Time* (Traverse), *Game Theory* (Traverse/ek productions, shortlisted for Meyer-Whithward Award), *Time To Go* (7:84 theatre), *Broken* (Oran Mor), *Gods Are Fallen And All Safety Gone* (Oran Mor/Greyscale), *Extremely Brief And Violent* (Theatre Science), *A Prayer* (Greyscale, Title Pending award) and *Harmless Creatures* (Greyscale/Hull Truck). Selma's plays have been performed in the UK, Croatia, Ukraine, Canada and Russia.

As a librettist her work includes *Zatopek!* (South Bank) and *Friday Afternoons* (Opera North).

Work as a translator includes plays and novels by Robert Holman, David Harrower, Susan Sontag, Dave Eggers, Salman Rushdie, Roddy Doyle, James Kelman, Zadie Smith, Monica Ali, Irvine Welsh and Barry Gifford.

As a dramaturg Selma has worked with the National Theatre Studio, Tron Theatre, Exit Theatre, Caroline Horton, RashDash and the National Theatre of Scotland.

Gods Are Fallen And All Safety Gone was first commissioned by
and produced for Oran Mor's A Play, A Pie and A Pint season
in 2007 with the following cast:

Selina Boyack (Daughter)

Anne Lacey (Mother)

Director **Pamela Carter**

In 2012 Almeida Theatre commissioned Greyscale Theatre
Company to create a new production of the show.

The cast was as follows:

Scott Turnbull (Daughter)

Sean Champion (Mother)

Directed by **Selma Dimitrijevic**

Designed by **Oliver Townsend**

In 2016 this production is still touring the UK and internationally.

For my mum, Jovanka Dimitrijevic.

Thank you.

CHARACTERS

ANNE (MOTHER)

ANNIE (DAUGHTER)

Scene 1

MOTHER *'s house. Front room. Her room.*

There is a comfortable chair and a few blankets.

Small table near. A few mugs, newspapers, glasses, TV schedule and a pair of socks scattered around the room.

It's a comfortable, warm place.

MOTHER *is in her chair, asleep.*

She is holding a cup of tea.

ANNIE *comes in.*

She just had a nice, long bath.

ANNIE *gently tries taking a cup of tea from MOTHER's hand.*

MOTHER *wakes up.*

MOTHER Oh.

ANNIE Sorry. I didn't mean to wake you up.

MOTHER I wasn't asleep.

ANNIE Can I take the...

MOTHER I'm not done yet.

ANNIE Oh. Okay.

MOTHER Have you had your bath?

ANNIE Yes.

MOTHER Was there enough hot water?

ANNIE Yes, there was plenty.

MOTHER Did you piss in the shower again?

ANNIE No. Of course I didn't.

MOTHER I'm just asking.

ANNIE I never do that.

MOTHER It's a cunt to clean, you know.

ANNIE Sorry?

MOTHER It's hard to clean.

ANNIE Right.

MOTHER Come here.

ANNIE What?

MOTHER Come here.

MOTHER *spits on her thumb and wipes ANNIE's face.*

ANNIE What is it?

MOTHER Toothpaste. There.

ANNIE Thank you.

MOTHER That's better.

ANNIE Where's Dad gone?

MOTHER How would I know? You think he tells me anything?

ANNIE He just disappeared.

MOTHER That's your dad for you.

ANNIE I wanted to talk to him.

MOTHER Maybe next time.

ANNIE Always "next time".

MOTHER What did they say about the weather?

ANNIE Who?

MOTHER On the radio.

ANNIE Some rain I think. Cloudy. Nothing too bad.

MOTHER Tz, tz, tz.

ANNIE –

What?

MOTHER It'll kill the crops.

ANNIE Will it now?

MOTHER Oh yes.

ANNIE And what do you know about crops?

MOTHER I know what kills them.

Rain and strong winds. Kills them. Just like that.

ANNIE It's April, mum, bit of rain is just fine.

MOTHER You'll see once they're all dead. Just you wait.

ANNIE I saw Aunt Marie this morning.

MOTHER Did you?

ANNIE Yes.

MOTHER And. Is she well?

ANNIE Well, no.

–

How could she be?

MOTHER What's wrong now?

ANNIE Didn't she tell you?

MOTHER Tell me what?

ANNIE Someone broke into their house.

MOTHER When?

ANNIE Last night.

MOTHER See. No one tells me anything.

ANNIE She left you a message.

MOTHER No she didn't.

ANNIE Well she said she did.

MOTHER Where?

ANNIE On your answering machine.

MOTHER Ah.

ANNIE Didn't you hear it?

MOTHER I heard the phone.

ANNIE And?

MOTHER It was ringing all bloody evening.

ANNIE So why didn't you answer it then?

MOTHER Your dad wasn't here.

ANNIE So what?

MOTHER You know I don't like answering the phone when your dad is not around. Besides, it was late, who knows who it was.

ANNIE It was Aunt Marie.

MOTHER Well I didn't know that, did I?

ANNIE Well if you answered the phone you'd know.

MOTHER I don't know. All that stuff they've got. It's just asking for trouble.

ANNIE Luckily the burglars didn't take anything.

MOTHER So why call me then in the middle of the night.

ANNIE I don't know, I think she just got a fright.

MOTHER And you went to see her?

ANNIE Yes, Mark and I stopped by this morning. You know, to see if there is anything we can do.

MOTHER Like what?

ANNIE I don't know, check if they are all right, maybe tidy up a bit.

MOTHER And you need Mark to tidy up?

ANNIE No, I didn't need him, but it was nice of him to come.

MOTHER Didn't he have to go to work?

ANNIE Mum.

MOTHER What?

ANNIE It's Sunday.

MOTHER But if it wasn't...

ANNIE –

MOTHER He does have a job to go to, doesn't he?

ANNIE No, he doesn't.

MOTHER How come?

ANNIE You know very well how come.

MOTHER Remind me.

ANNIE He's looking for a job.

MOTHER Is he?

ANNIE Yes, he is.

MOTHER Oh I don't know. He could've found one by now.

ANNIE He is looking for the right one.

MOTHER Ah.

ANNIE What?

MOTHER Can't you find someone else dear?

ANNIE Mum.

MOTHER What?

ANNIE Well, you know, I kind of like Mark.

MOTHER But he doesn't make any money.

ANNIE He made loads, and we have enough now, he's just not working at the moment, but we are fine.

MOTHER Ah.

ANNIE Trust me. We have enough.

MOTHER That place you live in...

ANNIE It's perfectly nice.

MOTHER It doesn't have a bath.

ANNIE We have a shower.

MOTHER But not a bath.

ANNIE Mum, just say it, if you mind / me taking.

MOTHER You know, sometimes I really feel sorry for you, never learned to fight for yourself, did you, and now look, poor thing, having to come all the way here...

ANNIE I'm coming to see *you*. Not to have a bath. It's just that you / always fall asleep...

MOTHER So what did she say?

ANNIE Who?

MOTHER Aunt Marie, who else. Is she happy now?

ANNIE Why would she be happy?

MOTHER Now she'll have something new to moan about.

ANNIE Mum.

MOTHER We'll never hear the end of that. I'm telling you. All she ever does is talk about herself. It's all me, me, me. You know, I don't understand that, people talking about themselves all the time.

ANNIE That's not really true mum.

MOTHER And I tell her. Don't think I don't. I tell her when she starts. That's why she doesn't like me.

ANNIE She absolutely loves you.

MOTHER So did she ask about me? About my chest?

ANNIE She was still in shock.

MOTHER Yes. I'm sure she was.

ANNIE The police were there. They can't figure out how anyone got in.

MOTHER She should just go over and ask them.

ANNIE Ask who?

MOTHER You know who.

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