

# ESPN, B.C.

A ten minute play

By Jean Blasiar

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SETTING: CAVE

CAST: CAVE MAN (1)  
(5) CAVE BOYS (teens)  
CAVE WOMAN (1)

No dialogue; only grunts, animal sounds.

All members of the cast are dressed in cave-dweller outfits (animal skins), carrying clubs (sturdier than paper maiche).

AT RISE, the (5) CAVE TEENS are sitting in a cave.  
There are animal skins on the floor and walls, sticks for beds, clubs and rocks of all sizes scattered about.

No one is speaking; everyone is glum (bored).  
One of the boys is twisting a twig into a circle.

After the boy has successfully made a circle of the entwined twigs, he holds it up to be admired. No one pays any attention.

The boy puts the twig circle on the ground.

The boy starts to toss one of the small rocks in the air and catching it. He does this several times. One of the other boys watches him, decides to do the same thing with a small rock.

The other three boys get in on the act, tossing rocks into the air and catching them.

One of the boys picks up a club and swats at the rock he tosses into the air, missing it. He tries several times; misses it every time.  
The other boys watch him, then decide to try.  
One of the boys will eventually hit the rock and send it sailing.  
The others are astounded.  
They each try; now with enthusiasm.

Several of the rocks (paper mache) are hurled across the stage (even if they go into the audience, they are very light and safe).

A CAVE MAN (very tall) enters the cave, sees what is going on.  
The man is carrying some apples which he picked from the high limbs of a tree.

The boys eagerly accept an apple which the man tosses to each of them.

The boy who wove the twigs together climbs up the torso of the tall man with the twig circle in his hand. He climbs up to the man's shoulders, hand on the man's face, to reach up to a tree limb sticking into the cave. The smaller boy is trying to attach his circle to the tree limb.

Once the tall man understands what the little boy is trying to do, he takes the circle and fastens it to the twig so it extends outward (this will be a little engineering job which the man is capable of figuring out because he is the most "evolved" in intelligence and native coordination).

The little circle is now extended from the high tree limb.  
The small boy climbs down, slaps the man's hand in a high five gesture.  
Then the small boy picks up a rock and tries to toss it through the circle.

One of the other boys also begins shooting "hoops".  
The tall man watches and smiles.