

Characters for

Peter

... and good riddance

Peter

I prayed to Jesus to take me away from it all.

When we bowed our heads in Morning Prayer. When we sang over supper. I secretly pleaded with Jesus. I wanted him to take me up into the heaven of his Father, just so I would not have to be here anymore. But God works in mysterious ways.

Why...

When the instructor went in the middle of shop, everybody screamed in fear. Not I. I knew that this was it. I knew that my time had come, and the instructor just had a bit more pressing business for some reason.

I went over to the church and climbed up into the belfry to be as near as possible, when the rapture came. There I sat absolutely still with my face turned upwards. At some time there was singing from the church, but that died out. In time all noise died out. It all went away, but I was still there.

Why, God?

Did you not see the canes behind my father's door? He was a conscientious man. He beat every scrap of sin out of me.

Did you not hear how I sang hymns at the top of my voice in the back of the garden at night, when the Devil just wouldn't stop to tempt me?

Did you not feel my love for you, and for your son, Jesus our savior?

God?

It was probably my vanity. I was vain thinking that my life was so much harder than everybody else's. I should never have presumed to become one of the first; I might as well become the very last.

But maybe heaven is full, and there just was not room for me. No, that is vanity too! But there could not be much room, with the lions and the lambs and all the people who ever lived.

But why did he take everybody? They cannot all be worthy of going to heaven.

Quick reference sheet

Peter

- 25
- male
- Klerup (village near a coast)

Victim of a very strict upbringing

Quiet

Religious

Such a **nice young man**, awfully quiet though
Not too bright, but accomplished in practical matters

Preparations

From time to time the director will ask you to describe some aspects of your post-apocalyptic existence from approximately a week after everybody else has disappeared. You can prepare yourself for these assignments by considering the following questions:

Do you still live in your parents' house?

Did you rig up a generator, when the power failed?

Have you started to work on any projects?

How do you pass the time between activities and in the night?

How are your dreams?

Safety

Oops, this may not be such a good idea, what do I do, if the floor collapses?

When you play safety, you do not have to be paranoid or security minded all the time. The other side of the same aspect would be to say:

"Come on, you'll never get anywhere if you are afraid!"

In other words you can both keep the player back and goad him/her on.

A way of making your activities more interesting can be, to keep your peace for some time, and then comment on what **has** happened.

Lars' supporting cast

Lena (Lars' wife)

If I only could make it work, could make the budget cover the expenses, could get the others to help keep things, could ...

But it's unrealistic. It is all on me. No wonder I have a hard time living up to standards. If only Lars would get it, but rather it's a mystery how he gets dressed by himself in the morning. All he ever thinks of is fun and games. It's like having three kids in the house.

And it's not like I don't have a demanding job. How do other people get through life?

Direction: *Lena is all business and no fun.*

When you play her, it is a good thing to remember that she is just as much a victim as her family. But her victimization is exactly what turns Lars into a victim (along with his own lack of back bone), so don't give him the time of day.

You only have one actual scene, but you can work Lena into almost any other scene by having your other characters refer to her or ask questions that force Lars to think of her.

Lilli (their daughter)

Daddy says I can read. Mommy says I still have to exercise every day. Mommy is probably right. Mommy is always right.

It is hard on Mommy because Daddy doesn't pay attention she says so every day. I try to be good and helpful, and mostly I am a very big help.

I just wish I had more friends.

Direction: *Lilli is mommy's girl. She is also trying to act as a small adult. Being 8 years old, she generally only manages to make nuisance out of herself, though.*

When playing Lilli, try to be a bit quiet and reserved, giving Lullu space, until it becomes too much. Then break in with a comment or question about how things should or shouldn't be ... or just pull her hair.

Pontus (Lars' friend from childhood)

I've really known Lars all my life. That is, he started in my class in 2nd grade, and the teacher asked me to show him the ropes.

I really like guy things, big cars, violent movies, just getting pissed. It kind of makes me feel like a man.

I've kind of gone through girlfriends. It's not that I am afraid of committing, but maybe I just am not that good at compromising. Lars, on the other hand, is probably too good at it. I sometimes wonder if he made the right choice.

Direction: *Play Pontus as the kind and interested friend, who doesn't really like to interfere in the life of his friend.*

Pontus should show his very masculine interests, but at the same time a deep rooted respect for Lars as a person.

SEPARATED3 (Chat participant)

Chatting means that I can meet people who are really interested in me and my life. They don't get vague and start looking away after a while.

Direction: *Don't take the scene from Lars if he wants to tell about his life or his feelings, but give a burst of made up experiences every time there is a pause. After all, you have been separated for three years. Talk of being in Limbo.*

Sandra's supporting cast

Tim, Kim, Kent, Jimmy, John (Sandra's mother's changing boyfriends)

You are more or less what one could expect a low self esteem, plain looking single mother with a shaky income to hook up with at the nearby bar or ladies night. Tim is a drunk, Kim is a sloth, Kent is mentally unstable because of maladjusted medication, Jimmy is an unacknowledged pedophile and John is just sponging off while he is on a rebound, mostly talking about the kid he is not allowed to see and his *perfidious* X.

Direction: *These guys are all worthless or even malicious to Sandra for each their reason, but they don't see themselves as evil, so try to find a way to show just a little humanity for them. On the other hand, they are all smarter than Conny (Sandra's mother), and all taking advantage of her.*

Hamid (Asim's friend and somehow also Sandra's)

They cannot be allowed to know how it is at home. You can keep it under control as long as you concentrate, and as long as you don't tell.

Sandra also has to flee her home from time to time, and you feel some kind of kinship to her, but there really isn't room for much of that. Mostly it is about getting through one more day and not thinking about it.

Direction: *Hamid hasn't really got room for subtlety. If he is having fun, he is doing it all out until he spoils it for everybody else. If he becomes sad, he is inconsolable. If he gets mad ...*

You may decide on what is wrong in Hamid's life, but probably you should just allow it to be one black void.

Simone (rich girl from Sandra's class)

OK, so my mother and father are better off than the rest of the parents in the class. It's not like I make a big thing out of it. I can wear my designer clothes to school if I want to, can't I?

Direction: *Simone is not a bitch, but she is the only well off girl in a tough class, and she has learned to hold her own. Generally play her guarded and sometimes also verbally aggressive.*