

LORD OF THE FLIES Audition Scenes
From the play by Nigel Williams
Based on the novel by William Golding

NOTE: Not all roles are
represented here. Casting will
be completed using the
audition roles.

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Cast of Characters

<u>Ralph</u> :	One of the leaders; friend to Piggy
<u>Jack</u> :	Leader of the hunters
<u>Piggy</u> :	Innately wise; overweight; speaks with a lower class dialect; has asthma
<u>Roger</u> :	Dark personality; quiet and intense
<u>Sam</u> :	Brother to Eric; starts sentences
<u>Eric</u> :	Brother to Sam; finishes his brother's sentences
<u>Simon</u> :	Intelligent, curious
<u>Henry</u> :	One of the hunters
<u>Maurice</u> :	The clown
<u>Bill</u> :	One of the hunters
<u>Perceval</u> :	The youngest, appears to be 6 or 7
<u>Naval Officer</u> :	British Fleet Naval Officer

AUDITION SCENE 1: THE LAGOON

Ralph|Piggy

RALPH, in the lead, has sighted a lagoon; PIGGY lags behind.

RALPH
There's a lagoon. Great for swimming.

PIGGY
Can't swim.

RALPH
Can't you?

PIGGY
I sink.

Ralph laughs.

RALPH
You don't you know.

PIGGY
I do. I know I do.

RALPH pulls at PIGGY's stomach.

RALPH
Blubber...

PIGGY
Leave off.

Pause.
What's your name?

RALPH
Ralph. What's yours?

PIGGY
Not telling.

RALPH
Is it a secret?

PIGGY
It's a stupid name.

RALPH
What is it?

(CONTINUED)

PIGGY

Are they all dead do you think?

RALPH

What?

PIGGY

The plane broke up. It's in two bits.

RALPH

They can't be.

PIGGY

Why not? If they weren't they'd be here. Organizin'.
And worse things happen. My auntie says--

RALPH

What does your auntie say?

PIGGY

A lot.

The two boys grin.

AUDITION SCENE 2:JUST USPiggy|Jack|Ralph|Simon|Sam|Eric

All the boys have been playing, but PIGGY tries to get them to realize the seriousness of the situation.

PIGGY

When you've all finished runnin' all over the place, maybe we can start doin' things prop'ly, because if all the grown-ups aren't here...I mean if there aren't any ...I mean if the bombs have...

This scares Jack into a flare of anger.

JACK

(shouts)

Shut up, can't you? You stupid little boy!

Pause.

RALPH

Who's going to be in charge? Will it be one person or--

SIMON

You have to have a vote.

PIGGY

You do. You have to have a vote.

SAM

And you have to -

ERIC

count up the -

SAM

numbers, and then -

ERIC

if you're on your -

SAM

feet...

Pause.

You talk.

RALPH

We can't all talk at once.

(CONTINUED)

SAM
I know, that's what -

ERIC
we're -

SAM
saying. We -

ERIC
always talk -

SAM
together and it gets -

ERIC
confusing.

Pause.

RALPH
We might, you know.

SIMON
Might what?

RALPH
Might have to have rules. If what Piggy...if what he...
says is right, then...maybe there is, you know... just
us...

JACK
Is that so bad?

SIMON
Depends on us.

AUDITION SCENE 3: THE SHELL

Jack | Bill | Henry | Maurice | Piggy | Sam | Eric

PIGGY holds the conch shell. The conversation has moved between freedom without grown-ups and the need for rules. The power of ideas is led by PIGGY, RALPH, and JACK.

JACK

So what? So what if they're all dead. Eh?
(Striding round.)

Look. Look over there. There's fruit on those trees. And there's fish in the sea. And it'll be like...it doesn't matter. We can do whatever we like, can't we?

BILL

(Shouts)
Ye-eeah!

MAURICE

Smash the place up...

HENRY

(Shouts)
Ye-eeeah!

MAURICE

Midnight feasts!
(He does his gorilla impression)

BILL

(Shouts)
Murder unlimited!

PIGGY

We can't, though. We can't. We can't do jus' as we like. An' if we all talk at the same time we'll never get nowhere will we? I'll tell you what. I'll tell you what...

(He holds up the conch, very earnestly.)
This shell. This shell thingy... If we're in a meetin' 'ooever holds the shell means that person is talkin'. And that is a rule. A rule, you hear me? An' it must never be broken.

The intellectual daring of this silences even JACK.

RALPH

(Quietly)
Okay.

(CONTINUED)

JACK

(To RALPH)
Just because he says.

RALPH

Well...

JACK

Is it a rule just because he says?

RALPH

Well...it...

JACK

I think we should talk about the leader and who's the leader because you always need a leader and--

PIGGY

You can't

JACK

Can't what?

PIGGY

Can't talk.

JACK

Can't what?

PIGGY

You 'aven't got the shell. I got the shell.

JACK

Look--

MAURICE

Is it a rule though?

BILL

It's a roo-ool!

SAM

School rules -

ERIC

must be obeyed, and -

SAM

at all times, boys must -

ERIC

wear a cap on the premises, and--

(CONTINUED)

JACK

(Shouts)
 Okay, it's a rule.
 (To PIGGY)
 Give me the shell. And I'll say something.

PIGGY

i 'aven't said what I was goin' ter say.

JACK

Well say it and we'll all yawn and then pass me the shell.

PIGGY

All I was sayin' was...
 (Now that he has the floor he is a
 little tongue-tied)
 We don't know 'ow many's on the island. We don't know.
 We 'ave to get them all together an' 'ave a meetin'.

JACK

Right. Pass me the shell then.

A tense pause. PIGGY looks at RALPH, but no help forthcoming there. He passes it to MAURICE, who passes it to BILL and so on round the group until it reaches JACK. JACK likes the power of it.
 Now. I'm talking. And I have the shell. And I think...
 (Looking round)
 I think I should be the leader. Because I'm choir prefect.

PIGGY

Why?

JACK

Because. Because it's a good idea, stupid. Anyway you can't speak. I've got the shell.

AUDITION SCENE 4: HUNTING LESSON

Roger | Jack | Ralph | Maurice | Sam | Eric | Simon

Except for ROGER, the boys are together in a group when JACK spots a wild boar. Later in the scene when RALPH starts talking about building a fire, ROGER enters quietly from the back and watches.

JACK

Look! Look!

RALPH

It's a pig!

SIMON

Look at it go!

SAM

Where?

SIMON

There! There!

ERIC

I can't see it...

JACK

It came from out of those trees. It was running with its head down. It's come back! You see? There it goes! See?

SIMON

It's amazing! Look at it!

SAM

Let's get it! Come on! Let's get it!

RALPH

Steady on...

JACK

Steady on what?

RALPH

One thing at a time!

JACK

What thing at a time?

(CONTINUED)

RALPH

How would you get it?

JACK

Get sticks of course...

ERIC

We haven't got sticks!

JACK

I've been hunting. In England. I've been hunting. It's good fun. I've been out with the hunters.

Pause.

When they blood you, they put blood all over you. I'm a good hunter in fact. I'm a natural hunter. We should sharpen sticks and go hunting. We should...

RALPH

What we need...what we need...

MAURICE

Is a good shit!

All laugh.

RALPH

What we need is a fire.

Silence.

We need to build a fire. Up here. Where it can be seen. And there needs to be smoke from the fire. And then a ship will see it. And rescue us.

ROGER

Will they?

They all turn to look at ROGER.

RALPH

They will. And that's why the fire has to be--

ROGER

If there's any of them left.

RALPH

They--

ROGER

They'll bomb each other to bits, won't they? Isn't that why we were all sent away like that? To get away from the bombs?

(CONTINUED)

SIMON

What school are you from?

ROGER

Does it matter?

SIMON

Well it might, I suppose.

ROGER

I'm from nowhere school. That's where I'm from.

AUDITION SCENE 5: THE BEASTPerceval | Ralph | Jack | Roger

The boys' fire has just gone out. There has been a lot of shouting, and a small child appears. RALPH sees him first.

RALPH

Look!

The boys look down on him as if he were a visitor from Mars which, in his neat school uniform, his shining satchel and perfect prep school gear, he could well be.

It's a little kid!

JACK

Must have seen the smoke!

PERCEVAL

Was there a fire?

RALPH

Yes. But it's gone.

PERCEVAL

Adam Jackson was next to me. But he isn't...

RALPH

Isn't what?

PERCEVAL

Isn't here?

RALPH

No.

Pause.

No.

PERCEVAL

I went into the trees...

RALPH

Did you?

PERCEVAL

I saw something...

RALPH

Did you? Which school are you from?

(CONTINUED)

PERCEVAL

Have the bombs killed everyone? Have they killed our mums yet?

RALPH

Listen--

JACK

What did you see?

PERCEVAL

A beastie.

Pause.

A snakey thing. I saw it.

Uneasy silence.

JACK

Don't be stupid. There's no beastie. There--

PERCEVAL

I saw it. Over there. In the trees. I went in. And I saw this thing.

RALPH

(Trying to comfort him)

I'm sure there isn't. I'm sure. We've been up to that hill. And you can see all around. It all looks...I'm sure there isn't. It's just us. No beast.

AUDITION SCENE 6: DISCOVERYSimon

As JACK and RALPH confront each other, SIMON has wandered off in search of the beast, almost in a trance of some sorts; getting close to--in his own words--having one of his "goes"...some sort of seizure disorder.

He nears the boar's head that JACK has impaled on a pike. The pike has been stuck firm in the group. In the dark, SIMON does not see the boar's head.

SIMON

My mind isn't right. It isn't. I'll have one of my goes if I'm not careful. My mind--

(He puts his hand to his hurting head for a moment)

If Ralph was here...when I was eight, I think...when I was eight I went down to the country and there...there was this horse in a field and...

(Puts his hand to his head again briefly)

If Ralph was here - Ralph would know.

(He stops. The faint moonlight catches the pig's head. He sees it for the first time. He freezes with fear. A whimper)

Oh. Oh no.

(SIMON moves slowly to stare at it)

It's blood. And it's flies. It's blood.

(He starts to reach for the head.)

That head. That head. When I was eight I saw a man kill a bird. And I thought...

(He is touching it with a thrill of horror)

There's blood and there are flies. It's not my fault there's blood and flies, is it? You look stupid, come to that.

(He starts to work the pig's mouth like a puppet's)

"Oh no I don't!" Oh yes you do. "You're a bad boy, do you hear me!"

(Starting to giggle)

Like Jenkins on that picnic. "You're no go, boy. You're no go!" "I'm not no go, sir!" "Oh yes you are--you're an ignorant, silly, little boy! And I know you are because I am the beast! You hear me! I'm the beast!"

(He has scared himself. Starting to feel the fit coming on him)

You're not. You're not. Pig's head on a stick. You're just a silly...

(Very scared)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SIMON (cont'd)

I feel funny. I'm going to...don't make me have a turn, sir, will you? Please don't let me have a turn, sir. Ralph! Ralph!

(And the fit starts. He begins reaching out for the head then falls, choking, feet drumming on the earth)

AUDITION SCENE 6: SMOKE SIGNALSOfficer | Ralph | Boys

The boys are shouting and the OFFICER approaches.

BOYS

It's the beast! Ralph! Ralph! It's the beast!

OFFICER

Who's in charge here?

RALPH

I am.

OFFICER

And what's going on?

RALPH

It's...

OFFICER

What's your name? You. The one in charge.

(Pause)

Cat got your tongue?

RALPH

My name is...

OFFICER

And what's all this about a beast?

(Pause)

A game? Is that it? You're all playing a game?

(Pause. The OFFICER begins to move away
in frustration)

I'll get the others from the boat. We saw your smoke,
you see. I should have thought that a pack of British
boys--you're all British, aren't you?--would have put
on a better show than this.