# DAY 4 SHORTER DRAMA

Characters: JESS, Raina, DEWEY

(Theme music)

(JESS is sitting near the ziggurat writing in her journal. Jungle sounds [SFX] are playing in the background.)

JESS: (PRE-RECORDED) Dear Journal . . . it’s now our fourth day stranded in the jungle and we’re all longing to be rescued. Dewey is still expecting to get back in The Incredible Race somehow and I have to get to Manaus before Sunday or I’ll miss the boat to the Amazon interior. As the hours pass, it’s getting harder to remain patient, and Myles’ constant complaining isn’t helping the situation one bit.

*(RAINA enters.)*

RAINA: *(upset)* Oh, I wish the Captain would hurry up and get here…that kid is driving me up the wall!

JESS:Why don’t you take a break and walk down to the stream.

RAINA: That’s a good idea. Maybe I will.

(DEWEY enters with a bag of potato chips.)

DEWEY: Hmm…you know what I thought I’d never hear myself say? “I’m sick of eating potato chips.”

JESS: Makes you appreciate all the varieties of food God gives us, doesn’t it?

Dewey: Sure does. I just wish we had some variety here.

JESS: Hey, at MTA, I learned all about the things you could eat in the jungle. In case you’re interested.

RAINA: What’s MTA?

JESS: Missionary Training Academy.

DEWEY: So, what’d they say?

JESS: Well, you’ve basically got 4 categories: plants, animals, fish, and insects.

DEWEY: Bugs?? No way!

JESS: Oh yeah…believe it or not, insects are eaten every day in many countries around the world. And really…they’re not as bad as you think…and they’re nutritious, too.

RAINA: Seriously? They’re actually good for you?

JESS: Yep. In fact, I’ve got some in my backpack right now if you’d like to try some. (as she pulls a pouch of cooked insects from her backpack).

DEWEY: You have bugs in your backpack?

JESS: Sure do. I wanted to try eating some unusual things, so I brought them along. Here…help yourself. (as she holds out the pouch of cooked insects)

RAINA: I think I’ll pass.

JESS: It’s okay…they’re fully cooked.

DEWEY: No thanks.

JESS: Okay, but just remember, in The Incredible Race, you often have to eat things you’re not used to. So, it might be smart to get some practice beforehand.

DEWEY: (pauses, then gets a sick look on his face) What kind of bugs are they?

JESS: Let’s see, I got the variety pack. (she reads the label on the package) Crickets, rhino beetles, giant water bugs, and silk worms. C’mon, I’ll eat one if you will.

DEWEY: I was afraid you were gonna say that. (pause as he struggles inside) Oh, all right…I’ll try one.

JESS: There…that’s the spirit!

DEWEY: I know I’m going to regret this. I just know it.

(JESS and DEWEY each take a large “insect” from the pouch.)

JESS: (excited) Hey! Looks like we both got rhino beetles.

DEWEY: (he looks closely at it) It’s staring back at me. I think I’m gonna be sick.

RAINA: Then don’t look at it.

DEWEY: I can’t help it.

(JESS takes DEWEY’S beetle and turns it around so it’s facing the other way.)

JESS: There. Is that better?

DEWEY: Not really.

JESS: (pause) Okay, let’s do it together. On the count of three…ready? One…two…

DEWEY: Wait! I’m not ready yet. (pause, as he tries to muster his courage) Okay, I’m ready.

Jess: All right…on three. One…two…

DEWEY: Wait! Are we going to eat on “3” or is it “1-2-3” and then eat?

Jess: “1-2-3” and then eat.

DEWEY: Okay.

Jess: All right…here we go. One…two…three…

(JESS and DEWEY both bite into their beetles with a big crunch and chewing sounds [SFX].)

RAINA: Eeeeeuw.

(DEWEY, with a sick look on his face, continues to chew. Then he shudders as he swallows.)

JESS: So what do you think?

DEWEY: What do I think? I think I’m not hungry anymore.

JESS: Really? See, I don’t mind them at all. (as she takes another “bug” and pops it in her mouth)

RAINA: Well, enjoy your bug eating. I’ve got to rest my eyes. I feel a headache coming on.

JESS: Okay.

(RAINA returns to the plane.)

DEWEY: Can I ask you a question?

JESS: Sure…go ahead.

DEWEY: What on earth made you want to become a missionary?

JESS: Well, that’s an easy one. I’m just so grateful for what God has done for me, that I want to serve Him with everything I’ve got. Does that make sense?

DEWEY: I guess. But still, I can’t figure out why you’d care so much about people who live so far away and that you don’t even know.

JESS: Because God cares about them. And they need to hear the Gospel just like you and I do.

DEWEY: The only thing I need to hear right now is that we’ve been rescued.

JESS: But that’s exactly what the Gospel is. It’s the good news about Jesus coming to rescue us from the penalty of our sins. And believe me, there’s absolutely nothing we need more than that!

DEWEY: I’m a good person. I’ll be fine.

JESS: No, you won’t, Dewey. The Bible says that no one is good except God alone. Which means no amount of “being good” is going to get you to heaven. God isn’t going to grade on a curve and he’s not going to weigh your good deeds against your bad deeds. The ONLY way to deal with our sin problem is to trust in what Jesus did for us.

DEWEY: I don’t want to think about it. I’ve got to keep my mind on the race.

JESS: But this is so much more important. We’re talking about your eternity here. Seriously, you really should get right with God now. No one is guaranteed his next breath. What if we hadn’t survived the plane crash?

DEWEY: Okay, I’ll think about it.

JESS: Good. I hope you will. I really do.

(RAINA bursts onto the stage.)

RAINA: Jess! Dewey! Come quick! I need your help!

JESS: What’s wrong, Raina?!

RAINA: It’s Myles! He’s burning up!

JESS: Oh no!

(DEWEY, JESS, and RAINA quickly exit to the plane.)

(Theme music)