

**Script Sample**

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**T H E B L I N D**

(Prayer in Latin)	THREE BLIND WOMEN
Hasn't he come back yet?	FIRST BLIND MAN
You woke me up!	SECOND BLIND MAN
I was sleeping too.	FIRST BLIND MAN
And so was I!	THIRD BLIND MAN
He hasn't come back yet?	FIRST BLIND MAN
I don't hear anyone coming.	SECOND BLIND MAN
It's time to go back to the Asylum.	THIRD BLIND MAN
We must find out where we are.	FIRST BLIND MAN
	SECOND BLIND MAN

It's gotten so cold since he left.

FIRST BLIND MAN

We must find out where we are!

THE VERY OLD BLIND MAN

We were walking for a very long time; we must be a long way from the Asylum.

FIRST BLIND MAN

Are the women opposite us?

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

Yes, we are. We're right over here.

FIRST BLIND MAN

Wait! I'm coming over to you. Where are you? Say something! Let me hear where you are!

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

Over here. Sitting on the stones.

FIRST BLIND MAN

There's something in-between us.

SECOND BLIND MAN

We'd better just keep our places.

THIRD BLIND MAN

Where are you sitting? Will you come over by us?

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

We dare not rise!

THIRD BLIND MAN

Why did he separate us?

FIRST BLIND MAN

I hear praying on the women's side.

SECOND BLIND MAN

Yes; the three old women are praying.

FIRST BLIND MAN

Damnit, this is no time for prayer!

SECOND BLIND MAN

You will pray too, soon enough...

THIRD BLIND MAN

I'd like to know who I'm sitting by.

SECOND BLIND MAN

I think I'm next to you.

THIRD BLIND MAN

We can't reach each other.

FIRST BLIND MAN

Anyway, we're not that far apart. The deaf one is here beside us.

SECOND BLIND MAN

I don't hear everybody; we were six just now.

FIRST BLIND MAN

I'll count how many are here. Women too; we have to know if we're still together. I hear the three old women praying all the time; are they together?

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

They are sitting beside me, on a rock.

FIRST BLIND MAN

I'm sitting on dead leaves.

THIRD BLIND MAN

Where's the beautiful one, the blind girl?

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

She is near the ones who are praying.

SECOND BLIND MAN

Where is the madwoman, and her child?

THE YOUNG BLIND GIRL

Quiet! The baby's sleeping. Don't wake him up.

FIRST BLIND MAN

You're so far away. I thought you were sitting opposite me.

THIRD BLIND MAN

All right! You know nearly all we need to know. All we can know at least. Let's just talk awhile as we wait for the priest to come back.

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

He told us to wait for him in silence.

THIRD BLIND MAN

We're not in a church!

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

You have no idea where we are.

THIRD BLIND MAN

I get scared when I can't hear myself speaking.

SECOND BLIND MAN

Do you know where the priest went?

THIRD BLIND MAN

He leaves us alone for far too long!

FIRST BLIND MAN

He's getting old. It looks as though he himself is losing his sight. He won't admit it because he's afraid someone will take his place and he won't ever see us again. But I suspect he hardly sees at all any more. We need another guide. He doesn't listen to us any more and our group is getting too big. He and the three nuns are the only people in the house who can see; and they are all older than we are! I'm sure he's misled us and is looking for the right road. Where has he gone? He has no right to leave us here!

THE VERY OLD BLIND MAN

He's gone a long way away. I think he said so to the women.

FIRST BLIND MAN

He no longer speaks to anyone but the women? Don't we exist any more? We should report him when we get back.

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

To whom will you complain?

FIRST BLIND MAN

I don't know yet; we'll see...we'll see all right. Where has he gone?! I'm asking the women.

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

He was tired with walking for such a long time. I think he sat down a moment among us. He has been sad and feeble for several days. He is afraid since the doctor died. He is alone. He hardly speaks anymore. I don't know what has happened. He insisted on going out today. He said he wished to see the Island, one last time, in the sunshine, before winter came. The winter will be very long and cold it seems, and the frost has

already come from the North. He was very uneasy too: they say the storms of the last few days have swollen the river and all the dikes are shaken. He also said that the sea frightened him; it is troubled without cause, it seems, and the coast of the Island is no longer high enough. He wished to see; but he did not tell us what he saw. Right now, I think he has gone to get some bread and water for the madwoman. He said he would have to go a long way, perhaps. We must wait.

THE YOUNG BLIND GIRL

He took my hands when he left and his fingers shook as if he were afraid. Then he kissed me...

FIRST BLIND MAN

Oh! Oh!

THE YOUNG BLIND GIRL

I asked him what happened. He told me he didn't know what was going to happen. He told me the reign of old men was going to end, perhaps...

FIRST BLIND MAN

What did he mean by saying that?

THE YOUNG BLIND GIRL

I didn't understand him. He told me he was going over by the great lighthouse.

FIRST BLIND MAN

Is there a lighthouse here?

THE YOUNG BLIND GIRL

Yes, at the North of the Island. I believe we are not far from it. He said he saw the light of the beacon even here, through the leaves. He has never seemed more sorrowful than today, and I believe he has been weeping for several days. I don't know why, but I too wept without seeing him. I didn't hear him go away. I didn't question him any further. I was aware that he smiled very gravely. I was aware that he closed his eyes and wished to be silent...

FIRST BLIND MAN

He said nothing to us of all that!

THE YOUNG BLIND GIRL

You don't even listen when he speaks!

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

You all murmur when he speaks!

SECOND BLIND MAN

All he said to us was, "Good-night," when he went away.

FIRST BLIND MAN

He said, "Good-Night," two or three times when he went away, as if he was going to sleep. I could tell that he was looking right at me when he said "Good-night, good-night." The voice has a different sound when you look at anyone directly.

FIFTH BLIND MAN

Pity the blind!

FIRST BLIND MAN

Who is that talking nonsense?

SECOND BLIND MAN

I think it is the one who is deaf.

FIRST BLIND MAN

Be quiet! This is no time for begging!

SECOND BLIND MAN

He can't hear you.

FIRST BLIND MAN

I know!

SECOND BLIND MAN

He is deaf.

FIRST BLIND MAN

I know!

SECOND BLIND MAN

And we are all blind.

FIRST BLIND MAN

I know...

THIRD BLIND MAN

Where did he go for his bread and water?

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

He went toward the sea.

THIRD BLIND MAN

Nobody goes toward the sea at his age!

SECOND BLIND MAN

Are we near the sea?

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

Yes, keep still a moment. You will hear it.

SECOND BLIND MAN

I hear only the three old women praying.

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

Listen well; you will hear it across their prayers.

SECOND BLIND MAN

Yes, I hear something not far from us.

THE VERY OLD BLIND MAN

It was asleep. It sounded as though a sleeping thing just woke up.

FIRST BLIND MAN

He shouldn't have brought us here. I don't like being spooked by noises.

SECOND BLIND MAN

Nor do I. Besides, we didn't ask to go out from the Asylum.

THIRD BLIND MAN

We've never come out this far. He didn't need to bring us so far.

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

The weather was so nice this morning. He just wanted us to enjoy one of the last sunny days before shutting us up all winter in the Asylum.

FIRST BLIND MAN

I prefer to stay in the Asylum.

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

He also said that we ought to know something of the little Island we live on. He himself had never been all over it. There is a mountain that no one has climbed, valleys no one has dared to go down into, and caves into which no one has penetrated. Finally he said we must not always wait for the sun under the vaulted roof of the dormitory; he wanted to lead us as far as the seashore. Now, he has gone there alone.

THE VERY OLD BLIND MAN

He's right. We must think of living.

FIRST BLIND MAN

But there is nothing to see outside!

Are we in the sun now?  
SECOND BLIND MAN

Is the sun still shining?  
THIRD BLIND MAN

I don't think so. It seems late.  
SIXTH BLIND MAN

What time is it?  
SECOND BLIND MAN

I don't know.  
SIXTH BLIND MAN

Nobody knows!  
FIRST BLIND MAN

Is it light still? Where are you? The one who can see a little, how is it?  
SECOND BLIND MAN

I think it is very dark. When the sun is out, I see a blue line under my eyelids. I did see one a long while ago, but I can't see anything now.  
SIXTH BLIND MAN

I know it's late when I'm hungry: and I am hungry.  
FIRST BLIND MAN

Look up in the sky! Maybe you'll see something there!  
THIRD BLIND MAN

I don't even know if we are under the sky.  
SIXTH BLIND MAN

Our voices echo as if we were in a cavern.  
FIRST BLIND MAN

No, I think they echo because it's evening.  
THE VERY OLD BLIND MAN

I think I feel the moonlight on my hands.  
THE YOUNG BLIND GIRL

The star's are out...I can hear them.  
THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN



THE YOUNG BLIND GIRL

So do I.

FIRST BLIND MAN

I don't hear anything.

SECOND BLIND MAN

I only hear the sound of our breathing.

THE VERY OLD BLIND MAN

I think the women are right.

FIRST BLIND MAN

I've never heard the stars.

SECOND BLIND MAN

Neither have I.

[BIRDS FLY BY]

SECOND BLIND MAN

Listen! Listen! What's up there above us. Do you hear?

THE VERY OLD BLIND MAN

Something has passed between us and the sky!

SIXTH BLIND MAN

Something is stirring above our heads, but I can't reach it!

FIRST BLIND MAN

I don't recognize that noise. I want to go back to the Asylum.

SECOND BLIND MAN

We ought to know where we are!

SIXTH BLIND MAN

I have tried to get up, but there is nothing but thorns around me. I'm afraid to stretch out my hands.

THIRD BLIND MAN

Where are we?

THE VERY OLD BLIND MAN

We have no way of knowing!

SIXTH BLIND MAN

We must be very far from the house. I no longer understand any of the noises.

THIRD BLIND MAN

For a long time I have smelled the odor of dead leaves...

SIXTH BLIND MAN

Is there any of us who has seen the Island in the past, and can tell us where we are?

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

We were all blind when we came here.

FIRST BLIND MAN

I have never seen.

SECOND BLIND MAN

Now we have to stop scaring ourselves. He'll come back soon. Let's wait a little longer. But in the future, we will never go out with him again!

THE VERY OLD BLIND MAN

We can't go alone.

FIRST BLIND MAN

We won't go at all! I'd rather never go outside.

SECOND BLIND MAN

We had no desire to go out. Nobody asked him to take us away from the Asylum.

THIRD BLIND MAN

He tapped me on the shoulder while I was sleeping and said, "Rise, rise, it's time! The sun is shining!" --It is? I had no idea. I've never seen the sun.

THE VERY OLD BLIND MAN

I have, when I was very young.

THE VERY OLD BLIND WOMAN

So have I; a very long time ago, when I was a child. But I hardly remember it.

THIRD BLIND MAN

Why does he want us to go out every time the sun shines? Who can tell the difference? I never know whether I'm taking a walk at noon or at midnight.

SIXTH BLIND MAN

I'd rather go out at noon; I guess vaguely at a bright white light and my eyes make great efforts to open.

THIRD BLIND MAN

I prefer to stay in the refectory, near the sea-coal fire. There was a big fire this morning...

SECOND BLIND MAN

He could take us into the sun in the courtyard. There the walls are a shelter; you can't go out when the gate is shut. I always shut it. Why are you touching my elbow?!

FIRST BLIND MAN

I'm not touching you. I can't even reach you.

SECOND BLIND MAN

Somebody touched my elbow!

**End of Script Sample**

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