

In Green Fields

By Peretz Hirschbein

Play no. 29

Opening show: 30/06/1935

Creative team

Staged by : Leopold Lindberg

Settings: E. Luftglass

Music by: Fordhaus Ben Zissi

Cast

David-Noah: M. Genessin

Rahel, is wife: T. Yudelevitz

Zinna:] H. Hendler

Hirsh-Ber:] their children A. Warshaver

Abraham-Jacob:] I. Avital

Elkanah: Ch. Amitai

Gittel, his wife: Bat-Ami

Stira, their daughter: N. Schein

Levi-Yitzhak: Ben-Chaim

Act 1

David-Noah and Elkanah are two rich farmers living in a certain village in Ukrania. There is a secret love affair going between Hirsh-Ber, David Noah's son. Elkanah's daughter, and Zinna, Hirsh-Ber's younger sister, caught the two kissing in David-Noah's garden, when she came one day to help them sow potatoes.

The parents have nothing against the match, as it seems. But along comes Abraham-Jacob, David-Noah's younger son, and brings a guest with him; this Levi-Yitzhak is a student of the Yeshiva whom he met on his way to the academy.

He is taken in by David-Noah and Rahel, his wife; they are enthused about this learned young man and admire his constant silence. They endeavor to coax him into remaining with them in the capacity of tutor of their children. Elkanah, who comes into the house just then, also participates in the discussion, and all are overjoyed when Levi-Yitzhak agrees to stay with them for a certain length time.

Act 2

It is some weeks now that Levi-Yitzhak is staying at David-Noah's home. Everyone treats him with respect and admiration; he, however, is not content. The children, who love the work of the fields and gardens more than staying home over books, do not study willingly and he looks upon himself as upon a stranger. Aside of that he hasn't any books to carry on his own work. He therefore decides to leave the place. Everyone begs him not to leave. A quarrel ensues between David-Noah and Elkanah over Lei-Yizhak; each one wants him to stay at his home. The children like him, and the parents find that his presence will make their children learned Jews. They persuade him not to

stay home all day long; they ask him to walk out into the fields and look at Nature's beauty. Abraham-Jacob, David-Noah's younger son, takes him out for a walk, to show him the fields.

Upon returning, Levi-Yitzhak is changed person. He likes the country and decides to stay on for some weeks.

Act 3

The days of Elul come round and Levi-Yitzhak is still in the country. Zinna who has secretly been learning how to write his name in a fine and fancy hand amazes him by her doing so.

She is so overwhelmed with joy over the fact that he likes it that she tells him all her most hidden secrets and kisses him. He is stunned. Elkana and his wife decide in the meanwhile to marry off Stira, their daughter, not to Hirsh-Ber, although the two love one another, but to the young tutor, Levi-Yitzhak. But the simple farmer doesn't know how to broach the subject and inform him of it.

And when Levi-Yitzhak learns from Hirsh-Ber that he loves Stira, he himself decides to talk to David-Noah and his wife that he wants their daughter, Zinna.

Elkana and Gittel bring their rebellious daughter, Stira, to the tutor to complain about her, but how amazed they are to find Hirsh-Ber asserting his rights and surprising to the parents by his great love to their daughter, so much so that they give their consent, because they are convinced that there is no better or finer groom for their daughter. Thus all are contented, and Levi-Yitzhak who has hitherto kept aloof from the work of the soil begins to like it too; he also gets to like these country folk who live on the soil and live by their work.