

Green Urban Paths



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EXPLORE THE CITY

Script for CASTELMEZZANO

The script requires three actors that tell the story and link the places.

Characters

Vito <i>About the character</i> He is calm and he loves nature. Outfit: A large straw hat, wide-legged pants with suspenders.	Isabella <i>About the character</i> She is calm and she loves nature. Her connection with nature is strong. Outfit: Flowers on her dress, a big hat and purple long dress	Prince Bomar <i>About the character</i> At the beginning of the tour he is ambiguous. He looks at the audience with arrogance. Outfit: A big hat on his head, big necklace made by gold
		

Stop 1 at Pietrapertosa's belvedere

Vito (smiling, approaches the tourists): "Hello! I'm Vito, the farmer of this small village. You see, nature is like a big family. Every plant and every animal has its special role, just like we do in our community. Each plant we nurture and every creature we look after holds significance akin to cherished companions. It's imperative to honor and safeguard them, mirroring the care and regard we extend to our fellow humans."

"Before we start, I would like to introduce two friends of mine: Isabella and Prince Bomar. Isabella is a gentle witch and she loves nature. Prince Bomar on the next stop is going to tell you a story, how he met Isabella and me. He is a bit bossy but don't worry."

"I would like to elucidate the significance of the bond between humans and nature in Basilicata. Since antiquity, this region has boasted numerous rites that celebrate the connection between humans and nature, such as the "marriage between the trees." An unusual union is solemnized between the trunk and the canopy of two distinct trees, symbolizing the sacred union of "two spouses" that evokes ancient hymns to fertility and the cyclical rebirth of life, heralding abundance. These arboreal rituals commemorate the union of two plants, physically joined to form a new unified tree, elevated to the heavens in a festive and solemn atmosphere. Typically held near the spring equinox, during the rebirth of nature and the Lucanian community, these rituals follow a defined ceremonial, which may vary slightly depending on the locality. In most cases, the "marriage" involves the felling of a tree in the forest, transported to the village by pairs of oxen. The trunk is then joined with the canopy of another tree, cut in a different forest, in a mystical bond between sky and earth: the trunk representing the masculine principle, while the canopy embodies the feminine. The "wedding" culminates with the ascent of the boldest individuals to the canopy, applauded and encouraged by the crowd. The journey that brings the trunk and canopy from the forest to the village square is a veritable event, with stops that celebrate local enogastronomic traditions to alleviate the fatigue of transportation. The festival features traditional music and the shouts of the herdsman, along with the lowing of the oxen, which punctuate the slow and rhythmic pace of the ancient rite."

"This ritual is held every 12nd and 13rd of September in honor of Saint Antonio"

Stop 2 at the Norman Castle

Prince Bomar: *Suddenly the prince approaches the audience*

"I want to explain how I met Isabella and Vito."

"In Basilicata, where the magic of nature danced among the tree branches and lush fields, stood a small village named Pietrapertosa. The inhabitants of this place were very sad because they didn't have much to eat due to an evil prince named Bomar. Of course, that's me!"

"I used to control from the large windows of my castle, making sure my farmers exploited the beauties of nature to exhaustion. I was unwilling to respect the connection between humans and the land; I saw only immediate profit, exploiting the soil without considering the consequences."

Prince Bomar interacts with the audience

"Do you think that exploiting the soil is good for nature? Do you think that is good behavior?"

Pince Bomar: *interacts with the audience.* "We can continue the story at the next step."

"We are going to the next stop called stone path"

"It is an ancient peasant path of 2 km, which connects the municipalities of Pietrapertosa and Castelmezzano. The route draws inspiration from the stories, handed down orally between generations and from the collective imagination on which the text "Vito danced with the witches" by Mimmo Sammartino is based.

Along the path the narrative is translated into visual, sound and evocative forms and becomes a story engraved in stone. Each stage includes a set-up space that hosts the artistic work evocative of one of the sequences of the story, and a sound setting that gives further suggestions to the magic of nature that is revealed.

Stop 3 at the stone path prince Bomar continues with the story

Prince Bomar: "Let's continue the story."

"One day, a farmer named Vito ventured into the dry forest to find something to eat. Luca was very scared and hungry because there were only bare trees around him.

After walking for a long time, he suddenly saw in the distance a different forest from the previous one, full of lush and fragrant trees. The amazed farmer decided to head towards this green forest, but suddenly, a witch appeared."

Isabella: "What are you doing here?"

Vito: "I'm looking for something to eat, I'm very hungry. Who are you?"

Isabella: "My name is Isabella and I'm the guardian of this place" "I am a friend of nature and animals"

Prince Bomar: The kind witch gently picked an apple from the tree with her hands. Vito grabbed it and began to devour it eagerly.

Isabella: "Why are you hungry? Isn't there anything to eat in your village?"

Vito: "Unfortunately, no, for a long time now, we haven't had much to eat because Prince Bomar wants to exploit our fields to exhaustion. How do you make the plants grow so luxuriously?"

Prince Bomar: "Isabella was the guardian of an extraordinary secret: every animal and every plant were precious friends. With her magical touch, she could make every plant come back to life."

Isabella: "Respect the earth. Cultivate with wisdom. The magic of life lies in respecting what surrounds us."

Prince Bomar: "Vito thanked her and ran to share this discovery with the other villagers, but the prince strongly opposed, ridiculing the idea of a "magical connection" with nature.

Isabella, however, didn't give up. With her tireless spirit and love for the land, she organized meetings with other farmers. She managed to involve them, showing them the beauty and abundance that could come from respecting nature. The plants responded to her care, and animals approached like trusted friends.

Gradually, even me, Prince Bomar, began to change. My skeptical soul softened in front of the beauty of nature and the prosperity that came from it. Over time, I joined Isabella's efforts, contributing to cultivating the fields and taking care of every creature with love.

Vito interacts with the audience

Vito: "What do you do to help nature? Do you take care of her as she does with you?"

Isabella: "The real magic is in mutual respect. Nature gives us so much, and we must protect it as the greatest treasure."

Vito: "The earth is alive, dear friends. And we are the keepers of its stories. But the human kind, in his progress, has often forgotten the sacred bond with nature.

Vito, Isabella and the prince involve the audience in a mission: find the trees along the path and hug them.

Stop 4 at the Norman Starway

Isabella: "How did you feel when you hugged the trees?"

Isabella: "For nature, every small gesture counts; with a bit of magic and a lot of love, we can make a difference!"

Vito: "The magic of nature is within us. Let's respect it and take care of it."

Isabella: "That's right, with respect for the earth and fauna, we can make the world a magical place for everyone."

Prince Bomar: "In this marvelous landscape please feel the nature. Listen to her sound. You can feel free to climb."

Isabella: "For those who do not want to have this experience, we can make ourselves comfortable here." "What do you do to help nature?" I try everyday to help nature . Everyday I do not waste food. It can damage our planet for several reasons. The most important is that food production requires significant resources such as water, land, and energy. When food is wasted, these resources are also wasted. Additionally, food waste that ends up in landfills produces methane, a potent greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change."

Isabella: *To the audience:* "This is a story on food waste"

"The heart of a bustling city, where the aroma of freshly cooked meals danced through the air, there lived a little potato named Spuddy. Spuddy resided in a cozy kitchen with other vegetables, grains, and meats, awaiting their turn to be transformed into delicious dishes.

One day, as the cook prepared dinner, Spuddy overheard a conversation about food waste. "We must be mindful of not wasting food," said the cook to a helper. "Every ingredient has value and should be used wisely."

This notion intrigued Spuddy. Determined to understand more, he embarked on a journey through the kitchen, eager to learn about the fate of leftovers and unused ingredients.

His first stop was the refrigerator, where he met Wilbur the Carrot. "Why are you sitting here?" Spuddy asked.

"I'm a leftover from yesterday's salad," Wilbur replied sadly. "Nobody wanted to eat me, so here I am, waiting to be thrown away."

Spuddy frowned. "But you're still fresh and nutritious! There must be something we can do."

With a spark of inspiration, Spuddy and Wilbur teamed up to create a delicious carrot and potato soup. They gathered other forgotten vegetables from the fridge and worked together to turn them into a hearty meal.

Their soup was a hit with the kitchen staff, who praised their creativity and resourcefulness. Spuddy realized that even ingredients deemed "leftovers" could be transformed into something wonderful with a little effort and imagination. Encouraged by their success, Spuddy and Wilbur decided to spread their message of reducing food waste throughout the kitchen. They organized cooking workshops, teaching others how to repurpose leftovers and use every part of an ingredient. Their efforts didn't go unnoticed. Soon, the entire kitchen was buzzing with excitement over creative recipes and inventive ways to minimize food waste. Leftovers became opportunities for culinary innovation rather than discarded afterthoughts.

As time passed, Spuddy and Wilbur's kitchen became a shining example of sustainability. Their journey had not only transformed the way food was handled in their kitchen but had also inspired others to rethink their approach to food waste.

And so, with determination and teamwork, Spuddy and Wilbur showed that even the smallest ingredients could make a big difference when it came to reducing food waste and nourishing those around them.

Isabella: "Now you can do an activity, ask people around you if they know a recipe against food waste"

Step 5 at the Volo dell'Angelo

Vito: “For those who do not want to have this experience, we can make ourselves comfortable here.

Isabella: “It’s time to play!”
“Basilicata, like the rest of the Italian regions, has its traditional games, a cultural expression that, along with other folkloric practices, encapsulates the deepest sense and nature of a community.

Among the typical games of Basilicata, we find "Pizzicantò," a variant of the many human towers, typical of traditions from all over the world. Pizzicantò, not by chance, is a highly symbolic game: it represents the dominance of verticality. The human tower, once formed, must rotate on itself: the risk of falling is in turn a symbol of the risk of social upheaval. Often, the towers represented different classes of workers: peasants, artisans, and other laborers. Pizzicantò is a game that Basilicata shares with the rest of Southern Italy (Molise, Campania, Calabria), and in 2003, it was declared Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO. Since 2009, in Irsina, the Festival of Human Towers has been held, with teams participating from all over the world.”

[You play the game]

Isabella: “Now, You can ask local people about their relationship with nature and discuss the info collected for this topic. End the tour with joint coffee or typical food in some restaurants.

Isabella: “Nearby there are restaurants with delicious food”.

The End.

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