

## Old Zeke SHOW BIBLE

### **Show Bible: "Old Zeke"**

#### **Series Overview**

Set in 1868 Arizona, "Old Zeke" is a Western drama that explores the disappearance of a young surveyor assistant in the vast wilderness. Donald Purdy, a meticulous Arizona State Surveyor, delves into a perilous investigation that challenges his urban sensibilities and exposes him to the raw beauty and brutality of the Wild West. The narrative intertwines mystery, survival, and the transformative journey of its characters against the backdrop of a harsh and unyielding landscape.

#### **Setting**

- **Arizona's Wilderness, 1868:** Expansive, arid landscapes, untamed nature, and the burgeoning yet isolated human settlements of the Wild West.
- **Yuma and Surrounding Territories:** The specific locale of the mystery, is characterized by its remoteness, dangerous wildlife, and the tension between settlers and Native American tribes.

#### **Main Characters**

- **Donald Purdy:** The Arizona State Surveyor. Originally from a sophisticated urban background, Purdy's journey is one of profound transformation as he confronts the realities of frontier life.
- **The Young Assistant:** Ambitious and eager, his disappearance triggers the events of the series. His fate and the reasons behind it are central to the unfolding mystery.
- **The Sheriff:** A pragmatic and tough seasoned lawman of the West, the Sheriff becomes Purdy's reluctant

ally. His knowledge of the land and its dangers is invaluable.

- **The Widow:** A reclusive figure shaped by the harshness of her environment and personal loss, the Widow is fiercely protective of her secrets.
- **Zeke:** The widow's enigmatic, mute slave. A symbol of the untold stories and complexities of the time, he is both feared and pitied.

### **Themes**

- **Transformation and Resilience:** The characters' personal growth when faced with the unforgiving realities of the Wild West.
- **Nature vs. Civilization:** The stark contrasts and occasional harmonies between the wild landscapes and the attempts at human settlement and order.
- **Mystery and Truth:** The pursuit of truth in a land governed by its own laws, and the revelations that challenge preconceived notions of justice and morality.

### **Episodic Breakdown**

1. **The Disappearance:** Introduction to the characters and the inciting incident.
2. **Into the Wilderness:** Purdy and the sheriff's initial foray into the investigation, encountering the dangers of the land.
3. **Encounters:** The duo's interactions with hostile Native Americans and wildlife highlighting the challenges of their quest.
4. **Revelations in the Dust:** Discovering clues that lead them closer to the widow and Zeke, as well as the secrets they guard.
5. **The Heart of the Mystery:** Confrontation and revelations, exploring the widow's and Zeke's backgrounds and motivations.

**6. The Truth Unveiled:** The shocking discovery of the young assistant's fate and the broader implications of greed and ambition.

**7. Return:** Purdy's return to civilization, changed by his experiences, with a new understanding of the land and its people.

### **Production Considerations**

- **Visual Style:** Emphasizing the contrast between the beautiful and brutal aspects of the Arizona wilderness. The visual narrative should highlight the isolation and vastness of the setting.
- **Music and Sound:** A score that incorporates traditional Western themes with elements that evoke the natural sounds of the wilderness.
- **Historical Accuracy:** Attention to the details of the period in terms of costumes, settings, and social dynamics, especially the portrayal of Native American cultures and the realities of frontier life.