

The States Collection – Nebraska  
Child of the Corn  
By Claudia I. Haas

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CAST: 2 males

Xan (male); any age; any race; corn farmer

Dan (male); any age; any race; corn farmer; and something strange is happening

XAN

Hey Dan. Get a grip. You're covered in corn silk.

DAN

It started last night. I can't pull them off.

(XAN tries. To pull them off.)

DAN (cont'd)

Owwwwwwww! *Stop!*

XAN

Dan!

DAN

Xan!

XAN

The corn silk!

DAN

It's attached. To my skin. To my head.

XAN

You're a true child of the corn.

DAN

I think I overdid it with the corn salsa. Maybe it was the cornbread. Or the corn casserole.  
Not sure.

XAN

You're sprouting cornsilk!

DAN

What's worse – is I think I'm growing a husk!

XAN

Let me see.

DAN

No, man. It's – you know – private.

XAN

Whoa!

DAN

And itchy. And what's worse –

XAN

/say no more. Too much information. Although I have to admit, you may turn out to be the biggest ear of corn Nebraska's ever seen.

DAN

You could plant me. Put me in a sunny spot and talk to me in the coming years so I'm not lonely..

XAN

You know how corn works. It's a crop. One year.

(We hear a crackling noise – the sound corn makes as it stretches and grows. There are more cornsilks. Dan pulls them out of his sleeves or his feet or the bottom of his trousers.)

XAN (cont'd)

Wow – this may sound corny but you are a-maizing.

DAN

Promise me you won't use me as animal feed. Or popcorn. I don't want to be microwaved.

XAN

I have an idea.

DAN

I'm all ears.

XAN

You will be the start of the soon-to-be-famous Corn Museum. We'll preserve you –

DAN

Like a mummy!

XAN

Better yet! I'll put a horn on the top of you and you can be a uni-corn!

DAN

You'd do that for me?

XAN

Absolutely.

DAN

Aw.... Shucks.

END OF PLAY