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

All rights reserved

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

DAN
It started last night. I can’t pull them off.

(XAN tries. To pull them off.)

DAN (cont’d)
Owwwwwwww! Stop!

DAN
Dan!

XAN
Xan!

DAN
The corn silk!

XAN
It’s attached. To my skin. To my head.

DAN
You’re a true child of the corn.

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

DAN
You’re sprouting cornsilk!

XAN
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