

## Doubting Thomas

This is like a Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson detective story, with a clear mixture of certainty and doubt – something of a melodrama with few words, but action and expression to convey meaning.

1: (speaking with authority) This is a story!

2: A story?

1: Positively!

2: (gaining interest) Legendary?

1: Repeatedly!

2: (excitedly) Mystery??

1: Undeniably

(2 assumes a forensic attitude, like a detective on a case, seeking evidence, while 1 seems hard to pin down.)

2: Historical?

1: (seeming vague) Hopefully

2: Factual?

1: Possibly

2: Verifiable?

1: Unlikely

2: Reliable?

1: Probably

2: Indefinite?

1: Totally

(pause)

2: So what's the story?

1: (melodramatically with action) Doors...

2: Locked?

1: (nods, gesturing around) Disciples...

2: Afraid?

1: (nods, then pointing). Master...

2: (as if solving a clue) Risen!

1: Definitely! (raises index finger, then rubs chin)

2: Uncertainty?

1: Indubitably

2: Doubting?

1: (nodding) Thomas...

2: (musing, hand on chin, but has no idea) Clearly...

1: Thomas (looking around, as if to say "He's not here...")

2: (realising) Absent?

1: Absolutely!

2: Questioning?

1: Hopefully

2: Sceptical?

1: Positively

(A pause - 2 wanting to hear more. 1 not saying anything. 2 getting frustrated...)

2: Subsequently?

1: Appearing! (acting like Jesus appearing)

2: Astounding! (reacting like disciples)

1: Greeting (hands out like Jesus welcoming)  
2: Embracing (arms out as if embracing Jesus).  
Thomas? (walks away and turns back to enact Thomas)  
1: Fearing  
(They act out the following encounter as they speak)  
2: (doubtful) Master?  
(pause)  
1: (open hands) Inviting  
2: (slowly walking forward) Approaching  
1: Revealing (shows palms and side)  
2: Touching (touches side of 1)  
1: (whispering, not in pain, but as if remembering) Piercing  
2: (gasping, then kneeling)  
1: Forgiving (hands reaching down)  
2: Trusting (hands reaching up)  
(Pause. 2 stands up.)  
1: I'm glad you doubted.  
2: You can't have faith without doubt.  
1: Possibly  
2: Probably  
1: Absolutely

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